

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fewkes Group Archaeological Site

other names/site number Fewkes Group Archaeological Site (NR 80003880); Boiling Springs site; 40WM1

2. Location

street & number 8400 Moores Lane NA ☐

city or town Brentwood NA ☐ vicinity

state Tennessee Code TN county Williamson code 187 zip code 37027

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☒ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☒ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register

☐ removed from the National
Register.

☐ other,

(explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

2

buildings

sites

structures

objects

2

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Mississippian Cultural Resources of the Central
Basin (AD 900-AD 1450)**Number of Contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

2

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious facility (mounds)

FUNERARY: graves/burials

DOMESTIC: Village/habitation site

EDUCATION: School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE: Park

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Metal

other N/A

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☒ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHAEOLOGY: prehistoric
ARCHAEOLOGY; historic non-aboriginal
SCIENCE
ARCHITECTURE
ETHNIC HERITAGE - black

Period of Significance

A.D. 900 to A.D. 1450

A.D. 1832-1927

Significant Dates

A.D. 1920

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Late Prehistoric, Mississippian

Historic Non-Aboriginal, 1832-1927

Architect/Builder

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☒ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☒ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Tennessee Division of Archaeology

Fewkes Group Archaeological Site (Mississippian Cultural Resources of the Central Basin
AD 900-AD 1450)
Name of Property

Williamson County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 20.72 Franklin 63NE

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) KEYED TO FIGURE 1

1	<u>17</u>	<u>38846</u>	<u>596418</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>39227</u>	<u>594727</u>

3	<u>17</u>	<u>38385</u>	<u>59314</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

Boundary Justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kevin E. Smith, Professor and Emily L. Beahm, Project Co-Director
organization Middle Tennessee State University date
street & number MTSU Box 10 telephone (615) 898-5958
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132-0001

Additional Documentation

submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Brentwood, Tennessee. Contact: Linda Lynch, City Staff. Email: lynchl@brentwood-tn.org
street & number P.O. Box 788 telephone 615-371-0060
city or town Brentwood state TN zip code 37024

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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Williamson County, Tennessee

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary Paragraph

The Fewkes Group (State Archaeological Site Survey Number 40WM1) consists of a prehistoric Mississippian period mound complex, habitation areas, and cemeteries (ca. A.D. 1000-1450) situated on two modern tracts totaling approximately 20.72 acres (Figures 1-2). The prehistoric site was historically located within a formerly larger farm complex that has subsequently been subdivided into multiple tracts, but the prehistoric site itself retains integrity (Figures 3-4 show the ca. 1917 boundaries of the farm complex). The site occupies a knoll overlooking the East Fork of the Little Harpeth River, a tributary of the Harpeth and Cumberland Rivers. A cluster of several large year-round springs at the locale are collectively referred to as "Boiling Springs." The site is now managed by the City of Brentwood as Primm Park, a city historical park designed to showcase the Boiling Spring Academy and Fewkes Group. Primm Park also connects and acts as an entrance to the Brentwood Bikeway.

The site was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 21, 1980 for local significance in the areas of agriculture, science, prehistoric archaeology, and architecture. This revised and expanded nomination includes recognition of national significance under Criterion A for contributions to the development of scientific American archaeology, local significance under Criterion C for the Boiling Spring Academy, and local significance under Criterion D for demonstrated potential to yield new insights into the prehistory and early history of Williamson County.

Inventory of Resources

Fewkes Group (contributing) consists of the archaeological remains of a large fortified Mississippian period community, including extensive residential areas, stone box cemeteries and four mounds around a central open plaza (Figure 5).¹ Also included within the property boundary is the Boiling Spring Academy and Meeting House and archaeological deposits associated with the historic use of the structure as a school, meeting house, and church.

Mound 1 (Figure 6, 8, and 9). The largest earthwork at the site, Mound 1, measures 185 feet north-south and 160 feet east-west at the base. The summit reaches a height of 25 feet above the surrounding plaza. For a variety of reasons discussed in Section 8, this mound has never been explored by antiquarians or modern archaeologists, nor has it seen any substantial damage from looting. In addition, available evidence suggests that the mound has never been cultivated and has

¹ Early twentieth century archaeology at the site indicates the presence of a fifth mound overlooking the river. While basal remnants of Mound 5 may remain extant, most or all of this earthwork appears to have been destroyed through a combination of erosion and farm road construction.

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largely been kept clear of trees for nearly the past nearly two centuries. As such, this platform mound has the potential to be the most archaeologically intact such feature in the Middle Cumberland region.

Mound 2 (Figures 7-8). Mound 2 is a low, oval platform mound on the west side of the plaza. It measures 235 feet north-south, 160 feet east-west, and (in 1920) stood 7.5 feet in height. Based on excavations in the 1920s, the mound was constructed in three stages, with a series of structures atop at least the first and second stages. The last summit of the mound was interpreted in 1920 as having largely been destroyed by cultivation.

Mound 3 (Figure 8). Mound 3 is a low oval burial mound on the southwest corner of the town square. In 1920, the mound measured 100x110 feet across the top and stood three feet in height. According to Myer (1920:586), the burial mound had been constructed on top of a low natural knoll, which gives the appearance of a greater height.

Mound 4 (Figure 9). Mound 4, on the east side of the town square, is a low oblong mound, 200 feet north-south, 180 feet east-west, and about 4 feet in height. Myer interpreted Mound 4 as a natural knoll given its mound-like shape by removal of soil. Whether Myer's early archaeological interpretation is accurate would require additional modern reassessment.

Mound 5. Mound 5 was a small, low, oval mound located to the north of the Boiling Spring Academy building. In 1920, the mound measured 32 feet across the base and was 3.5 feet in height. Unfortunately, no remnants of Mound 5 are currently visible on the surface, although subsurface remnants may remain archaeologically intact.

In addition to the earthworks, the site includes the archaeological remains of a community plaza, extensive residential areas, prehistoric cemeteries, and an historic African-American burial ground.

Boiling Spring Academy (contributing -- Figure 10). The period of significance for Boiling Spring Academy extends from its construction in 1832 through 1927, when it was converted for use as a farm storage building. The academy building was constructed in 1832 and served actively as a private school and meeting place through the late 1880s, when it was served as both a church and public school building within the Williamson County School system. While slightly modified in the late 1880s and rehabilitated by the City of Brentwood in 2003-2004, the structure retains substantial integrity for the period 1832-1927.

There is a non-functional privy and a composting restroom on the site that are non-contributing. They are small buildings, set away from the historic property and do not detract from the overall integrity of the nominated resources.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William Edward Myer was a leading figure in the early twentieth-century transformation of Tennessee archaeology from a casual hobby to a professional science. Myer's transformation from an educated antiquarian into a nationally recognized archaeologist marks the beginning of the science of archaeology in Tennessee -- a transformation that began during his initial federal project at the Fewkes Group.

Criterion A. The Fewkes Group Archaeological Site is eligible under Criterion A for its national level of significance in Science (1920), specifically reflecting the historical development and early application of multidisciplinary approaches in American Archaeology. As described in more detail in subsequent sections, Myer was among the first southeastern archaeologists to emphasize excavations outside mound and burial contexts, experiment with stratigraphic excavation, and to engage a multidisciplinary team in the laboratory analysis and reporting phase of his project. Myer, along with M.R. Harrington, were among the only southeastern archaeologists of the first two decades of the twentieth century to recognize the scientific value of village refuse excavation, generally ignored by their peers in favor of burial sites. Myer's retention of pottery fragments, animal bones, plant remains, and geological specimens is a landmark effort that would not be matched in Middle Tennessee for almost half a century. His experimentation with stratigraphic excavation so clearly exhibited in Mound 2 was also pioneering in the southeastern United States.² In the laboratory, Myer continued his efforts to bring together a multi-disciplinary team of specialists to examine the artifacts recovered from Fewkes -- including botanists, zoologists, geologists, physical anthropologists, ethnologists, and linguists.

The resulting publication by the Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution served as the primary archaeological source on Middle Tennessee prehistory for nearly fifty years. The site is also nationally significant as one of the earliest well documented examples of the significant involvement of African-Americans in federal archaeology (Ethic Heritage-Black). The Boiling Spring Academy building (1832-1927) is eligible under Criterion A for its local significance in Education, serving as one of the first schools in Williamson County.

Criterion C. The Boiling Spring Academy building is eligible under Criterion C for local significance in Architecture, serving as a rare surviving example of an early nineteenth century school. The academy retains substantive architectural elements from its original construction as a private academy in 1832, with some adaptive renovations as a church and school around 1880-1890.

Criterion D. The Fewkes Group is also eligible under Criterion D for local significance in Archeology, including both Prehistoric and Historic-Non-Aboriginal archaeological remains that

² Although not clearly documented, Myer's efforts to examine the various summits and their associated buildings in Mound 2 was probably strongly influenced by his close interactions with A.V. Kidder, widely recognized historically as one of the pioneers of stratigraphic excavation in the United States.

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have and continue to yield significant new information about the prehistory and early history of Williamson County.

Early Site History and Antiquarian Observations

In 1876, Joseph Jones provides the earliest clear reference to what was then simply called the Boiling Springs site. He notes that "numerous stone graves are also found... in and around Brentwood; at the Boiling Spring" and further illustrates "the body of a black female idol, obtained from a stone grave at Boiling Springs, Williamson County, by the late Dr. Freeman."³

Given the prominence of the mounds at the Fewkes Group, the absence of early antiquarian collecting or digging at the site is notable. An interesting passage in the field notes of Edwin Curtiss from 1879 appears to reference the Fewkes site and provides a possible explanation for this enigma:

*...three miles above this Mrs. Hayes on the same stream or river as it is called is a very large sacrificial mound and a large area covered with graves but the owner is a widow lady and will not grant any one permission to explore on her farm says it is wrong to molest the dead and says she dont want her bones disturbed after she is ded [sic] and I think it must be a depraved person who would want to disturb her while living.*⁴

In 1879, the site was indeed owned by a widow -- Mrs. Martha V. Owen Edmondson, daughter of Jabez Owen.⁵ William M. Clark makes a similar statement about a Williamson County mound site that might be the Fewkes site as well: *Near the center of the great cemetery stands a huge mound, the finest in the country, and one which I was anxious to examine, but was prevented from doing so by the scruples of the owner.*⁶ These mentions suggest that the early owners of the Fewkes Group prevented antiquarian investigations of the site and contributed to the extraordinary preservation of archaeological remains at the site.

³ Joseph Jones (1833-1896) conducted some of the earliest well documented archaeological investigations of Middle Tennessee sites during his term as the first Health Officer of Nashville (1867-68). His excavations were published as *Explorations of the Aboriginal Remains of Tennessee* in 1876 as part of the Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge Series. The majority of his artifact collection, including the illustrated vessel, is now curated by the National Museum of the American Indian.

⁴ Michael C. Moore and Kevin E. Smith, 2009, *Archaeological Expeditions of the Peabody Museum in Middle Tennessee, 1877-1884*, Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Department of Environment and Conservation, Report of Investigations No. 17, Nashville.

⁵ Williamson County Will Book 23, pp. 106-107. The 1878 D.G. Beers & Co. map of Williamson County also shows Mrs. J. Edmondson residing in what is now known as the Owen-Primm (NR 4-13-88) House (Figure 3).

⁶ Clark, W.M. 1878, "Antiquities of Tennessee," *Smithsonian Institution Annual Report for 1877*, pp. 269-276. Washington.

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In response to a circular requesting information about local sites distributed statewide by William Myer in 1917, Park Marshall wrote Myer indicating that P.E. Cox had excavated at the site in 1895.⁷ Sometime in 1920, Myer interviewed Cox about his 1895 work at the Fewkes Group:⁸

He found and opened a stone slab grave in the S.E. corner of Womacks front grass lot. Skeleton on its back. The skull rested on a conch drinking cup. Has no recollection of fortifications at this point. About 150' S.W. of S.W. corner of Mound No. 2, he found five or six beds of ashes containing animal bones and other kitchen refuse. These beds were about 2 1/2 ft in diameter and about 2 ft beneath the surface of the soil. These beds ran nearly N & S. They were about 7 ft distant from each other. There slabs of stone lying between, almost as if placed there as stepping stones. No graves were in this immediate neighborhood. This was about 1895. Mr. Cox made no written notes. In Boiling Spring school lot, between the two large oak trees he found what apparently was a lot of kitchen refuse. On the western edge of Mound No. 1 he found what he thought to be grave rocks - not in place - no bones or evidences of burial were with them. Burials in Mound No. 2. 1st grave was about 2 (-3) feet below surface. Stone slab with top removed probably removed by plow. Body at full length, adult, no relics. 2nd grave was immediately below No. 1 but was not in a stone box. adult. About 10" earth separated it from body in No. 1. There were about 3 more skeletons buried in layers beneath above two bodies. He found with these bodies a nest of (5) pottery bowls. 1st about 10" in diameter. The other 4 nested inside the large one. These bowls were upright. There was an 8 in flint spear head, black flint, near pelvis of one of these bodies. This was all the pottery Mr. Cox found at Boiling Spring Group.⁹

⁷ Park Marshall was a prominent lawyer, historian, politician, and author from Franklin, Tennessee. In 1920, he was serving his first term as Mayor of the City of Franklin. Due to Marshall's interest in the history and prehistory of Williamson County, he became a significant source of information for Myer about local sites. Hudson Alexander, "Park Marshall had a good seat to see history" *Williamson Herald*, Thursday, November 9, 2006, Page A4; MS 2570, "Notebooks. Catalogued 1915-1917." National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution. Smithsonian Museum Support Center, Suitland, Maryland. This portion of the collection includes a large number of documents in a "Subject File" apparently maintained by Myer from the late 1800s through his death in 1923. Notes on Park Marshall's correspondence are primarily filed in Volume 2, M-Z under the subject heading of "Mounds" and are undated. Parmenio Edward Cox is an important figure in the early twentieth century archaeology of Tennessee. Cox was appointed in 1924 by Governor Austin Peay as the first official State Archaeologist of Tennessee, a position he held until his death in 1932; Records of the Department of Education, Division of Library and Archives, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Record Group 27, Series 2 - hereafter cited as P.E. Cox Papers.

⁸ MS 2570, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution, Smithsonian Museum Support Center, Suitland, Maryland. The Fewkes Group notes are filed in Volume 2, M-Z under the subject heading of "Mounds" and are undated.

⁹ MS 2571, "Notes, manuscript drafts, drawings and maps relating to Myer's Two Prehistoric Villages in Middle Tennessee, 41st Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, 1928, pages 485-614." National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution, Smithsonian Museum Support Center, Suitland, Maryland. Part of this collection includes the field notebook of William Edward Myer titled "Fewkes Group at Boiling Springs Academy, Williamson County, Tenn on the lands of J.H. Womack." Pp. 74-76 bear the heading "Recollections of Boiling Springs by P.E. Cox."

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The next significant archaeological work at the site was directed by William Edward Myer under the auspices of the Bureau of American Ethnology in October 1920.

Significance in the History of American ArchaeologyWilliam Edward Myer (1862-1923; Figure 11)

William Edward Myer (1862-1923) was born in Kentucky in 1862, but his family moved soon thereafter to Carthage in Smith County, Tennessee, a locale he called home for the remainder of his life. About 1870, Myer's mother gave him a prehistoric shell gorget and stone pipe from a cave near his childhood home -- a gift that seems to have sparked what became a lifelong interest in the antiquities and the ancient peoples of his beloved Cumberland River valley. During his summer vacation in May and June of 1890, he traveled to near Wilmington, Ohio to dig a series of small Woodland period mounds under the supervision of Warren K. Moorehead.¹⁰ He soon returned to Tennessee to begin nearly thirty years of efforts to investigate and preserve the antiquities of his adopted state.

Myer was very successful in his business enterprises, including significant contributions in developing Tennessee's transportation infrastructure such as toll bridges and a steamship line. Despite that success, Myer's burning passion was to investigate the prehistory of the Cumberland River valley. Between 1915 and 1916, he phased out his business enterprises to devote his time to archaeological research. Although his retirement was briefly interrupted by his appointment during World War I as federal Fuel Administrator for Tennessee, he continued to expand his understanding of emerging archaeological methods and techniques.¹¹

Like most of his contemporaries, Myer had no professional training in archaeology. Unlike many of his contemporaries, however, Myer rectified that lack of training through a largely self-funded effort to professionalize his efforts. He became affiliated with the Bureau of American Ethnology in 1919 as a Special Archaeologist. During his four years with the Smithsonian Institution, Myer embarked on a series of major archaeological projects throughout Middle Tennessee, eventually excavating at many of the major Mississippian period mound centers along the middle portion of the Cumberland River. Unfortunately, Myer died an untimely death from chronic myocarditis at his

¹⁰ Warren K. Moorehead, 1892, *Primitive Man in Ohio*, G.P. Putnam's Son, New York.

¹¹ Myer was appointed on October 29, 1917 and held the position until its termination on April 3, 1919. *General Orders, Regulations, and Rulings of the United States Fuel Administration, including the Acts of Congress, Executive Orders, and Proclamations of the President Pursuant to which the United States Fuel Administration was Created and is Acting. August 10, 1917-December 31, 1918.* Compiled by the Legal Division of the Administration. H.A. Garfield, United States Fuel Administrator. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1919. Pg. 35.

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Washington D.C. residence on December 2, 1923, leaving several thousand pages of notes, manuscripts, and photographs unpublished.¹²

Fortunately, his colleague and friend Dr. John Swanton edited two of his nearly completed manuscripts that were published posthumously by the Bureau -- *Two Prehistoric Villages in Middle Tennessee* and *Indian Trails of the Southeast*. The former contains the published record of the October 1920 investigations of the Fewkes Group.¹³

Myer's national reputation was well established in the early twentieth century. For example, in his review of several hundred archaeology publications from around the world for 1918, William N. Bates noted: "Three important papers dealing with the archaeology of Tennessee have recently been published... The third paper by W.E. Myer ... describes the various artifacts and the mounds, rock shelters, and caves of the Cumberland valley."¹⁴ Although his untimely demise left some of his most significant works unpublished, unlike most of his predecessors and contemporaries, Myer left substantive records of his research in both published and unpublished form -- records that have been cited consistently over the past century. He was recognized by his peers at the time of his death in an obituary published in *American Anthropologist*, journal of the American Anthropological Association (the nation's premier professional anthropological association):

William E. Myer. Archaeology has suffered a severe blow in the sudden death on December 2 of Mr. William E. Myer, who has been associated with the Bureau of American Ethnology during the past four years. Mr. Myer was a successful business man of Carthage, Tenn., identified for many years with various betterment projects of his community and state and during the World War incumbent of the important post of state fuel administrator. After withdrawing from active business life he devoted his attention with enthusiasm and success to recording and exploring the antiquities of his native commonwealth. The subject of aboriginal trails was one which he made peculiarly his own, bringing out possibilities in connection with them unsuspected by ethnological students of long standing. He not only compiled a very complete trail map of Tennessee but carried the work over a great portion of the Southeastern United States. A large part of this work together with a quantity of material bearing on the archaeological remains of this section has fortunately been left in a condition in which it may be of permanent use. Mr. Myer was not merely a valued worker in

¹² Kevin E. Smith, "William Edward Myer," in *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, ed. Carroll Van West (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1998), 665; Samuel D. Smith, "Tennessee Archaeology Awareness Week: Some Smith County Connections," *Smith County Historical and Genealogical Society Newsletter* 10(1):1-5, 1998. See documentation package for the Fite-Williams-Ligon House, Carthage, Smith County, Tennessee (NRIS 030000663, NR 7/17/03) for additional discussion of Myer's contributions to transportation improvements in the Smith County area.

¹³ William Edward Myer, 1928, "Two Prehistoric Villages in Middle Tennessee" *Forty-first Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1919-1924, pp. 485-614. Washington D.C.; William Edward Myer, 1928, "Indian Trails of the Southeast," *Forty-second Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1924-1925, pp. 727-867.

¹⁴ William N. Bates, "Archaeological Discussions, 1918," *American Journal of Archaeology* 22(4):439-467. 1918.

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*these fields but possessed an unusually engaging and sympathetic personality which endeared him to all fortunate enough to enjoy his acquaintance.*¹⁵

A.V. Kidder, one of the most significant anthropologists of his day, corresponded with Myer's widow Virginia in his position as secretary of the American Anthropological Association:

*My dear Mrs. Myer:- I, as secretary of the American Anthropological Association, have been instructed to quote you the following resolution, made by the association at its last annual meeting in December 1923: "The Association has lost one of its most active and distinguished members in the death of W.E. Myer who has made important contributions to our knowledge of the prehistoric peoples throughout the southeastern portion of the United States. The Association extends its sympathy to the surviving members of his family and directs that this resolution be spread upon our permanent records." Yours very truly A.V. Kidder, Secretary.*¹⁶

His colleagues at the Bureau of American Ethnology and United States National Museum also expressed their recognition of Myer's loss:

Dear Madam, the loss which you have suffered in the death of your husband, a loss which we -- even though not in equal degree -- also experience, moves us, his former friends and associates of the Bureau of American Ethnology and the United States National Museum, to extend to you our heartfelt sympathy at this time and to assure you of the high professional regard and the warm personal esteem which each and all of us had -- and have -- for him. In spite of our all too short association with Mr. Myer we learned to esteem him professionally for his pure devotion to truth, his enthusiasm in seeking it, his willingness to be led by it, but we came to value him yet more because of the lofty type of manhood of which he was the embodiment. Gentle of manner, kindly toward all about him, genuinely grateful for assistance received and ever ready to lay his own stores of knowledge before the seeker, however humble, not forcing his opinions upon others but gladly communicating them when they were asked for, he served all who approached him with a sweetness of spirit that never omitted encouragement where encouragement could be given and which left no sting to criticism.

In the loss of Mr. Myer archaeology has suffered a heavy blow, and we are sharers in the loss, yet individually and collectively we feel better for having known him, and it will be long indeed before that sphere of consecrated endeavor which was his will cease its quiet ministry among us.

¹⁵ "Anthropological Notes: William E. Myer," *American Anthropologist* 25(4):585.

¹⁶ A.V. Kidder to Mrs. W.E. Myer, Letter of February 7, 1924. Mrs. W.E. Myer's Scrapbook, Private collection, Copy on file, Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Nashville.

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[Signed]

J. Walter Fewkes
Francis La Flesche
Truman Michelson
Stanley Searles
John R. Swanton
J.N.B. Hewitt
May S. Clark
DeLancey Gill
Albert E. Sweeney
Helen Munroe
Emma B. Powers
E. Leary
Anthony W. Wilding¹⁷

Walter Hough
Neil M. Judd
W.H. Holmes
Ales Hrdlicka
W.P. True
Frances L. Nichols
Thomas Blackwell

As noted by James B. Stoltman in his review of the development of southeastern archaeology:

Throughout the period 1894-1933 numerous archaeologists were conducting valuable research in the Southeast, but space permits us to mention some of these only in passing. Most of the research during this period was sponsored by institutions located outside of the Southeast (e.g. Smithsonian Institution, Peabody Museum, Phillips Academy, The American Museum of Natural History, and Heye Foundation) and was carried out by staff members who were not-Southeasterners. Important exceptions were George E. Beyer in Louisiana, William E. Myer in Tennessee, Bennett H. Young in Kentucky, and Calvin S. Brown in Mississippi.¹⁸

In his classic study of the archaeology of the Mississippi Valley, Philip Phillips also recognized Myer's substantive contributions:

Considering these conditions, we may be thankful that such men as Joseph Jones and General Thruston were on hand. Their writings, unmarred by the "mound builder" extravagances that prevailed at this time in many quarters, are still among our best sources for the archaeology of the region. To which must be added the work of Professor Putnam in

¹⁷ Bureau of American Ethnology and U.S. National Museum staff to Mrs. W.E. Myer, Undated letter. Mrs. W.E. Myer's Scrapbook, Private collection, Copy on file, Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Nashville.

¹⁸ James B. Stoltman, "The Southeastern United States," In *The Development of North American Archaeology: Essays in the History of Regional Traditions*, edited by James B. Fitting, pp. 117-150. Anchor Press, New York. 1973.

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the late 'seventies and early 'eighties, and the more recent excavations of W.E. Myer for the Bureau of American Ethnology.¹⁹

In his southeastern archaeology before the depression, Lyon emphasized Myer's early recognition of chronology:

In Tennessee William E. Myer (1862-1923) searched for sites with support from the Bureau of American Ethnology. He worked in the Cumberland River Valley near Nashville in September and October 1920. Myer dug at the Gordon town site and the Fewkes group. He recognized that at least two different peoples had occupied the site; the older built mounds and used a flexed burial method, followed by a later people who buried in stone-slab graves.²⁰

More recent scholarship on the history of southeastern archaeology also places Myer in the forefront of national archaeology:

Although mounds continued to attract curious Tennessee antiquarians... it was the excavation of stone box graves and related habitation sites that witnessed the first problem-oriented archaeology in which there was an attempt at accuracy in excavation and recording. This led to a new classification and chronology of Tennessee prehistoric cultures during the period from the 1870s to the third decade of the twentieth century primarily by four men: Joseph Jones, Frederic Ward Putnam, M.R. Harrington, and William E. Myer. ... William Myer is probably best known for his work at the Gordon Town and Fewkes sites in Davidson and Williamson Counties, respectively.²¹

In sum, Myer was and remains a nationally recognized contributor to the development of American Archaeology during the first pivotal two decades of the twentieth century.

First significant federal project along the Cumberland River

With the exception of some brief (unpublished) excavations by John Wesley Powell in 1877, the Smithsonian Institution did not sponsor significant archaeological investigations along the Cumberland River in Tennessee until Myer's 1920 work at Fewkes and the nearby Gordon site in Brentwood. The large-scale investigations of the Bureau of Mound Exploration in the late

¹⁹ Philip Phillips, "Introduction to the Archaeology of the Mississippi Valley, in Two Volumes," PhD dissertation, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, 1939.

²⁰ Edwin A. Lyon, *A New Deal for Southeastern Archaeology*, University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa. Pp. 14-15. 1996.

²¹ Charles H. Faulkner, "A History of Tennessee Archaeology," In *Histories of Southeastern Archaeology*, edited by Shannon Tushingham, Jane Hill, and Charles H. McNutt, pp. 172-182. The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa. 2002.

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nineteenth century were focused along the Tennessee River in East Tennessee. This oversight may relate to a "gentleman's agreement" not to interfere with the explorations of Harvard's Peabody Museum along the Cumberland from 1877 until 1884.²² In 1916, the National Research Council (NRC) was created to assist the National Academy of Sciences in advancing the cause of knowledge and advising the federal government on matters of science and technology. Archaeology was of major interest from almost the very beginning of the NRC. By 1920, a Committee on State Archaeological Surveys had been created with the goal of professionalizing archaeology in the United States -- particularly in the Midwest and Southeast. Myer became deeply involved with the Committee on State Archaeological Surveys -- having sponsored the beginning of the first statewide survey of archaeological sites in 1917-1918. The report of that committee in 1922 noted:

*Tennessee. A general survey of the State has been conducted by Mr. W.E. Myer with some assistance from the Bureau of American Ethnology. All the known sites in the state have been mapped and descriptive notes prepared for early publication.*²³

During that survey, Myer identified the "Boiling Spring Site" and "Gordon town site" as among the most significant in the state. After securing his position with the Bureau of American Ethnology, Myer received funding to pursue investigation of these two sites with the goal of securing their status as National Monuments. As such, Myer's 1920 excavations at the Gordon and Fewkes groups comprise the earliest major federally sponsored archaeological projects along the Cumberland River.²⁴ As part of his efforts to professionalize his fieldwork, Myer brought all of his new connections among the Bureau scientists to bear on this project.

In 1920, the primary venue for protection of "antiquities" -- a collective term for prehistoric ruins and artifacts -- was through designation by the President as a National Monument under authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906. The act allowed the President to proclaim "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest" as national monuments. A major impetus for passage of the act was protection of prehistoric sites on federal lands in the Southwest, where unregulated digging of "Indian curios" and looting of pueblo ruins for private profit had become widespread as early as the 1880s. Most of the areas designated as

²² Michael C. Moore and Kevin E. Smith, 2009. *Archaeological Expeditions of the Peabody Museum in Middle Tennessee, 1877-1884*. Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Department of Environment and Conservation, Report of Investigations No. 16. Nashville.

²³ Kevin E. Smith, 2008, "Creation of the Tennessee Archaeological Society, 1924," *Newsletter of the Middle Cumberland Archaeological Society* 33(6):2-5; Clark W. Wissler, 1922, "Notes on State Archaeological Surveys," *American Anthropologist* New Series 24, pp. 233-242.

²⁴ Unfortunately, much of the Gordon site was destroyed by subdivision development in the 1980s. Although small portions of the site may retain sufficient integrity to yield additional archaeological information, the locale is largely built over and retains little landscape integrity; Michael C. Moore, Emanuel Breitburg, K.E. Smith, and M.B. Trubitt, "One Hundred Years of Archaeology at Gordontown: A Fortified Mississippian Town in Davidson County, Tennessee," *Southeastern Archaeology* 25(1):89-109.

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national monuments during the 1920s were in the west. The other venue for federal protection through ownership was by designation as a national park, but that system was still relatively new in 1920. The system of national parks was formalized in 1916 when President Woodrow Wilson signed the Organic Act creating the National Park Service.

In May 1920, Jesse Walter Fewkes, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, arrived in Nashville at the request of Myer. Myer's goal was twofold -- to persuade Fewkes to fund excavations at the two sites and subsequently to seek their designation either as national parks or national monuments.²⁵

*J. Walter Fewkes, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution, will arrive in Nashville tonight. He is one of the greatest scientists in the world and has written and published a number of books on the cliff dwellers of the Southwest. He will spend a week in Tennessee... While in Nashville he and Mrs. Fewkes will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Myer at the Tulane hotel.*²⁶

*From the Gordon farm, Mr. Fewkes went to Boiling Springs, five miles away, where a village of mounds was distinctly visible.*²⁷

*The establishment of a Federal park in Tennessee to include the remains of ancient Indian villages, mound, etc., is proposed, and may result from an appeal to be made to Congress following the visit to Nashville of Dr. Jesse Walter Fewkes, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, during the coming week.*²⁸

*Dr. J.W. Fewkes, chief of the bureau of ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution, who is in Tennessee for the purpose of examining Indian mounds and other relics of the Indians and prehistoric races, will leave tonight for Washington... The purpose of his visit here is to examine Indian mounds, graves, etc., in this vicinity with the view of making recommendation for the preservation of some of this territory as a national park, so that these evidences of the activities of former races can be preserved... Dr. Fewkes will not decide upon his recommendations until he returns to Washington... He says that whatever may be his recommendations they will amount to little unless the people and congressmen in this section get behind them and push them.*²⁹

²⁵ Kevin E. Smith, 2008, "The May 1920 Trip of Jesse Walter Fewkes to Middle Tennessee," *Newsletter of the Middle Cumberland Archaeological Society* 33(4):3-8.

²⁶ "Ancient Ruins of Tennessee: Scientist Fewkes Comes Here to Investigate Some of them, Federal Government Will Be Asked to Convert Locations into National Parks for the Preservation" *Nashville Banner*, May 2, 1920, pg. 1.

²⁷ Dr. Fewkes Explores Wigwam Mounds Here: Scientist and Party Find Indian Village Relics in this Vicinity. *Nashville Tennessean*, May 5, 1920, pg. 14.

²⁸ "Mound Expert's Visit May Bring U.S. Park Here," *Nashville Tennessean*, May 2, 1920, Pg. 1.

²⁹ "Preservation of Relics: Dr. Fewkes will Probably Recommend National Parks in this Section," *Nashville Banner*, Thursday, May 6, 1920, pp. 1,6.

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After the departure of the Fewkes for the fieldwork in Arizona and New Mexico, Myer continued his efforts to muster local support. By late summer, "at the request of many citizens of Tennessee this site was named the Fewkes Group in honor of Dr. J. Walter Fewkes, Chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, who had visited it and recognized its possibilities a few months before."³⁰ In addition, Myer worked to pursue local support for purchase of the newly named Fewkes Group:

*I am informed by the citizens of Williamson County that it will be possible for them to raise the money to purchase the ground around the Fewkes Group and present it to the government, in case you decided to recommend it for a National Monument...*³¹

*The citizens of Williamson County are now endeavoring to raise sufficient money to buy the Fewkes Group (the Boiling Springs Group) provided you should later decide to make it a national monument.*³²

By mid-September, Myer received authorization to begin fieldwork at the expense of the Bureau of American Ethnology at Gordon and Fewkes.³³

Fewkes Group Excavations, 1920

Having already made arrangements with H.L. Gordon, owner of the Gordontown site, Myer began his project there in September 1920. After completing that work in early October, he shifted operations to what he now referred to as the Fewkes Group. On October 11, he drove to Brentwood to pick up laborers for the project.³⁴ They commenced excavations the morning of Tuesday, October 12 and continued through the end of October (Figure 12).

Myer recorded his general observations concerning the Fewkes Group excavations:

At least two different peoples had lived [at the Fewkes Group]. The earlier people, whom I have designated the flexed-burial people, on account of their mode of burial, built the mounds and most of the other remains. The traces of these flexed burial people cover 14.6

³⁰ William Edward Myer, 1928, "Two Prehistoric Villages in Middle Tennessee" *Forty-first Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1919-1924, pp. 485-614. Washington D.C.

³¹ William E. Myer to J.W. Fewkes, Letter of August 16, 1920, MS 2171, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

³² William E. Myer to J.W. Fewkes, Letter of September 18, 1920. MS 2171, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

³³ J.W. Fewkes to W.E. Myer, Telegram of September 17, 1920. MS 2171, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

³⁴ "Statement, Amount due W.E. Myer for money paid out for materials, labor, transportation, and subsistence in explorations for Bureau of American Ethnology in 1920, Gordon Townsite and Fewkes Group", December 17, 1920. MS 2171, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

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acres. At a later date a smaller band of some other tribe located here. The flexed-burial people buried the bodies closely flexed in either hexagonal or almost circular stone-slab coffins. The later band buried in rectangular-stone-slab graves, with body extended full length, on its back.

The Fewkes group consists of five mounds, one of each of the four sides of a level town square and another on the edge of the river bank. There are also traces of about a dozen house circles and a small remnant of what was once a considerable stone-slab cemetery.

As far as can now be determined the circular buildings of the common people were scattered about the outer edges of the group of four mounds inclosing [sic] the town square.

Most of these habitations were to the west of mounds No. 2 and 3 and to the north of mounds Nos. 1 and 2, east of mound No. 1 and near mound No. 5 and possibly to the south of mound No. 3. These sites are enclosed by dotted lines on the map. Some houses of more than usual importance adjoined mound No. 1 on the northeast side.

Mound No. 2 on the map is a low, oval mound situated on the western side of the town square... The site of this mound had been lived upon for a time before the mound was raised. The mound was commenced and raised to a height of 3 feet and a building or buildings, for unknown purposes, erected thereon. This building was later torn down, and then the mound was raised 3 feet higher and again used for unknown purposes for a period. Then the town house or ceremonial house was built upon it. This building had a rare beautiful floor made of clay, smoothed, and then hardened by fire, and later covered with a thin black coating which was then polished. This coating was black and glossy when uncovered.

In the center of this building on this polished floor was found an altar...

The walls of the building were made of cane stems, with the leaves still attached, which had been woven in and out between the upright posts supporting the roof and plastered with earth. Traces were found of the fine cane matting which had been hung as a decorative wall covering on the interior. In some way the building was destroyed by fire. Earth was thrown on the remains in time to smother its still glowing embers. This produced a large amount of powdery charcoal containing fragments of cane stems with the leaves attached. It also contained minute portions of the charred cane-matting wall covering.

After this building was burned the mound was again raised 1 1/2 feet or more in height. All traces of its last use had been destroyed by 85 years of cultivation.

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The low mound, No. 3, on the south side of the town square, was used for burial by these flexed-burial people.

The tall oval mound, No. 1, on the north side of the town square, is 180 feet across the base and 25 feet in height. It is the most conspicuous mound in the group. Lack of funds prevented its excavation.

House circle No. 6 was one of the group of buildings, Nos. 6, 10, 11, whose functions were closely interwoven. No. 6 contained in its center a fine altar or fire bowl.

There was evidence that this town had either been taken by an enemy who burned it, or the ancient inhabitants, forced to flee, had burned their homes to prevent their falling into the hands of the invader.

House circle No. 17 was probably a typical dwelling. Its floor was of hard-packed clay. The fire-bowl was sunk in the center of the floor, and not raised above the floor, as was customary at Gordon town and in several other middle Tennessee towns. At this fire bowl a puzzling burial was unearthed. A child, about 12 years of age, was buried by the side of the upright stone slab... with its head resting just within the edge of the fire bowl, whose rim had been cut away at this point to admit the top of the child's head. The fire bowl was found still filled with ashes. These ashes covered the top of the child's head, which showed not the faintest trace of the action of fire.

The graves of two other children were also found in the floor of this house...³⁵ (Figure 5).

Myer's recognition that at least two different "peoples" occupied at the Fewkes Group demonstrates an explicit realization that within this site he was dealing with cultures of different ages. While some of his interpretations have been critiqued, this does not detract from the value of his more basic contribution -- recognition of the dimension of time in the archaeological record.

In closing his introduction, Myer notes that "when partial excavations were completed, [the site was] accurately restored to their original shape, for the benefit of future explorers. The interesting altars, fire bowls, building postholes, and vestiges of domestic life were carefully preserved and again covered up so as to allow their future study. ***The citizens of Tennessee strongly urge that the Fewkes group be made a national monument*** [emphasis added].³⁶

³⁵ William Edward Myer, 1928, "Two Prehistoric Villages in Middle Tennessee" *Forty-first Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1919-1924, pp. 485-614. Washington D.C.

³⁶ William Edward Myer, 1928, "Two Prehistoric Villages in Middle Tennessee" *Forty-first Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1919-1924, pp. 485-614. Washington D.C.

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Of additional significance is the thorough documentation of significant involvement of African Americans in this archaeological project. Until recently, very little scholarly research has focused on the involvement of African Americans in early archaeological research, particularly on federally sponsored projects.³⁷ Prior to detailed research on the Gordon and Fewkes projects, the earliest well documented involvement of African Americans in federal archaeology is the Irene Mound archaeological project in Georgia sponsored by the Works Progress Administration between September 1937 and December 1939.³⁸

The curation of Myer's ledgers, notebooks, photographs, and expense records at the National Anthropological Archives permits documentation of the Fewkes Group project crew as consisting largely of local African American men. Myer's expense ledger for the Fewkes Group includes the names of eighteen laborers hired for the project: Reuben Bailor, George Battle, Alfred Claybrooke, J.G. Crockett, Sherman Dotson, Peter Fitzgerald, Nathan Frazier, Lawson Green, Ed Harper, John Harrison, Jeff Hayes, Robert Hesson, Will Kelton, Richard Spratt, Henry Stearns, John Will Tells, J.V. Thompson, and Fred Veach. Of these, at least eleven were local African Americans from Davidson and Williamson counties.³⁹ Field photographs from the Fewkes project show several of these men at work on Mound 2 (Figure 13). Myer also mentions George Battle, one of the crew members, in his field notebook from the project in reference to the "slave burying ground" located at the eastern base of Mound 1:

The old slave burying ground. Uncle Paul Edmonson. The songs: "Amazing Grace," "How firm a foundation," and "Hark from the tomb a doleful sound". This was burying ground before the war. Only three since the [Civil] war. Very rarely, but sometimes, such songs as "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" are sung at such burials. Uncle Geo Battle told me the above. His grandmother came from Va. He did not know how his people got here from Africa. Had heard they were "patroled" here.⁴⁰

³⁷ Michael C. Moore, Kevin E. Smith, and Stephen T. Rogers, "Middle Tennessee Archaeology and the Enigma of George Woods," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* LXIX(4):320-329, 2010; Kevin E. Smith, Michael C. Moore and Stephen T. Rogers, "George Woods: Tennessee's First African-American Archaeologist and the Involvement of African Americans in Tennessee Archaeology 1819-1950. Paper presented at the 30th Annual Conference on African-American History and Culture, Nashville, 2011.

³⁸ Cheryl Claassen, "Black and White Women at Irene Mound," *Grit-Tempered: Early Women Archaeologists in the Southeastern United States*, ed. Nancy Marie White, Lynne P. Sullivan, and Rochelle A. Marrinan (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1999).; Gail Whalen and Michael E. Price, "The Elusive Women of Irene: The WPA Excavation of a Savannah Indian Mound," *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 82 (fall 1998): 608-26.

³⁹ Research on these individuals is on-going, but current information indicates the following: George Battle (b. 1885), Alfred Claybrooke (b. 1872), J.G. Crockett (b. 1905), Sherman Dotson (b. abt 1861), Peter Fitzgerald (b. 1893), Nathan Frazier (b. 1878), Lawson Green (b. 1888), John Harrison (b. 1895, World War I veteran), Will Kelton (b. 1884), Richard Spratt (b. 1861), and Henry Stearns (b. 1882).

⁴⁰ Fewkes Field Notebook, pg. 79. MS 2171, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

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Project photographs curated at the National Anthropological Archives include one showing the "slave burying ground" and George Battle (Figure 14). Although not certain, Mr. Battle appears to be the fourth individual from the left in the Mound 2 excavation photograph (Figure 13). Although the brief reference above is unclear, "Uncle Paul Edmonson" suggests the possibility that he was one of the three individuals buried in the "slave burying ground" after the Civil War. A "Paul Edmondson" (black and 75 years old) appears on the 1870 United States Census living in the Boiling Spring district. He does not appear on the 1880 census, so it is surmised that he may indeed be one of the individuals buried in the cemetery. The established fact that the property was owned by a daughter of Jabez Owen married to an Edmondson in the 1870s lends additional credence to this argument. Additional information on Lawson Green (Figure 15), another of Myer's African American crew members, has also been secured. Mr. Green was a descendant of a slave family on the Wessyngton plantation in Robertson County, Tennessee who resided in Davidson County in 1920.⁴¹ Myer's expense records suggest that he paid his crewmen by experience and ability -- regardless of color. His supervisors -- both white and black -- were paid 40 cents an hour, experienced crew members were paid 35 cents an hour, and newcomers were paid 30 cents an hour.

As has been noted on many occasions over the past two decades, there are disproportionately few African American archaeologists in the United States.⁴² For a brief period in the 1920s, there were more African-Americans at work on the archaeological projects at Gordon, Fewkes, and other Bureau of American Ethnology projects in Tennessee than today. The Fewkes Group provides a well documented location to acknowledge and celebrate these contributions and has significant promise for new insights through additional research on the individuals involved.

Early multidisciplinary archaeological project

Myer's 1920 excavations at the Gordon and Fewkes sites represent the earliest documented efforts to conduct a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary research project in Tennessee and among the earliest of their type in North America. While his excavation and recovery techniques and provenience documentation remained crude by modern standards, the project represents a landmark attempt to bring together scholars from a variety of disciplines during the analysis and interpretation phases. Myer's groundbreaking interest in village midden deposits, residential structures, and generally things other than burials was clearly underlined by Hiram Ridge, one of his longest term field assistants:

⁴¹ John F. Baker, Jr. 2009. *The Washingtons of Wessynton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom*, Atria Press.

⁴² Maria Franklin, 1997, "Why are there so Few Black American Archaeologists?", *Antiquity* 71:799-801.

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*Up to then we hadn't dug up any graves, cause he [Myer] wasn't looking for graves. We knew where they were. Exactly where they were, but we hadn't dug any because he wanted to devote his time to the buildings.*⁴³

While not using modern artifact recovery techniques, Myer notes: "The several hundred fragments of pottery found in these excavations were all saved and studied. This enabled [Myer] to determine the size, shape, color, and material of what was probably nearly their complete line of domestic pottery."⁴⁴ His reconstruction drawings based on pottery sherds (Figure 16) are the earliest efforts to develop an understanding of Tennessee ceramic use in a domestic setting -- rather than relying solely on whole vessels recovered largely from burial contexts.

For examination of subsistence patterns, Myer engaged the services of Mr. G.S. Miller, curator, Division of Mammals, United States National Museum and Dr. W.E. Safford of the Department of Agriculture. Myer's efforts to secure identification of both the plant and animal remains from Gordon and Fewkes are among the earliest known examples in North America -- presaging the more widely recognized development of the fields of paleoethnobotany and zooarchaeology by several decades.

William Edwin Safford (1859-1926) was a botanist, ethnologist, and linguist. In 1920, he served as Economic Botanist in the Office of Economic and Systematic Botany of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Two plant genera are named for him, along with sixteen species.⁴⁵ In March 1921, Safford reported to Myer:⁴⁶

I have at last finished examining the material from the ancient village sites in Davidson County, Tennessee, submitted by you for determination. I am very sorry that few of the vegetable substances are in such condition that they can be identified; but, on the other hand, the collection includes samples of maize which are of great interest.

In box No. 1 there are specimens of a fine-grained heartwood resembling cedar, from a rectangular hole (no. 33) in the Fewkes Group...

In Box No. 2 there are excellent specimens of charred wood, which may very probably be identified by Forest Service experts. This charcoal mixed with pulverized black earth was taken from a layer 1 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches thick covering the hard-packed surface surrounding

⁴³ "Interview with Mr. Hiram Ridge" conducted by H.C. Brehm on June 14, 1982. Transcribed by Kevin E. Smith. Middle Cumberland Society Archives, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro.

⁴⁴ William Edward Myer, 1928, "Two Prehistoric Villages in Middle Tennessee" *Forty-first Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1919-1924, pp. 485-614. Washington D.C.

⁴⁵ Perry, M. C., C. S. Bond, and E. J. R. Lohnes. 2007. Washington Biologists' Field Club, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD. <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/resshow/perry/bios/WBFCHome.htm>. Accessed October 4, 2011.

⁴⁶ W.E. Safford to Myer, Letter of March 28, 1921, National Anthropological Archives MS 2171.

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a fire bowl, in mound No. 21 (sic) on Womak farm. With it were fragments of pottery, bones, and a little spiral marine shell. In Box No. 3 are fragments of poles covered with mud and charred by fire. These may have been part of a roof which was made by laying poles close together and then covering them with mud, or they may have been wattle-like sides of a house. They were taken from a trench hear house holes in top of Mound No. 2.

In Box No. 5. There are two lumps of bright yellow clay like ocher with which are mixed the stems of grasses and other vegetable substances which I could not identify, and which may have been introduced like the straw in the bricks of ancient Egypt. From No. 6 Fewkes Group.

In Box No. 6 is a quantity of soft powdered charcoal from an ash bed in Mound No. 2 Fewkes Group. It suggests burned corn-meal or mush.

In Box 8 there is also a substance resembling finely ground corn-meal mush. Grave F, Fewkes Group....

Once more regretting that I am unable to arrive at more definite determinations of the vegetable substances, which should be studied carefully by microscopists.

Safford reported the discovery in the "Sciences News and Notes" section of the journal *Science*:

Corn that grew in Tennessee in pre-historic times was unearthed recently by W.E. Meyer, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, and sent to the United States Department of Agriculture for identification. During recent excavations in Davidson County, Tenn., Mr. Meyer came upon a number of stone slab graves containing mortuary vessels. Some of these held specimens of charred maize in fairly good condition. From the size and shape of the grains it was possible to identify the variety as Many-Rowed Tropical Flint, a form about half way between true flint and popcorn. The same type of Indian corn occurs in the West Indies, and there appears to have been a very early communication between the West Indies and North America. Not only corn but beans, squashes, pumpkins and tobacco are of tropical and subtropical origin. These staples, now so important throughout both hemispheres, found their way into North America and were cultivated beyond the Great Lakes in Canada long before the discovery of America. There is abundant evidence of communication between the West Indies and Florida, and up the Mississippi and its tributaries.⁴⁷

Although brief, these two publications constitute some of the earliest on the scientific study of prehistoric plant remains from the southeastern United States and indeed the nation. As noted by Richard Ford:

⁴⁷ *Science*. N. 8 Vol. LIV, No. 1396. Pp. 299-300. September 30, 1921.

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Prior to 1930, ethnobotany was well established among American ethnologists, botanists, and explorers. List of utilitarian plants accompanied most ethnographies, and detailed tribal ethnobotanies published during this period are classics. Despite the legacy of this valuable information for interpretation of archaeological plants, archaeologists were simply not accustomed to recover botanical remains. Occasionally, obvious examples of basketry, wooden artifacts, or dessicated corncobs from dry shelters in the Southwest and mountainous areas of the East were kept, but far more "trash" was simply dumped out. Charred debris was rarely conspicuous enough for attention. There were a few notable exceptions, of course. At Mills' request, J.H. Schaffner, a botanist, identified charred plant parts from the Baum Village in Ohio (Mills 1901). Young (1910) identified plants in human feces from Salts Cave, Kentucky... Kidder and Guernsey (1919) saved plants from northern Arizona, which they sent to specialists. Otherwise little of ethnobotanical value remains from the early scientific excavations in North America.⁴⁸

For the faunal remains, Myer indicates that:

Every fragment of bone found was saved. A study of these fragments by Mr. G.S. Miller, curator, Division of Mammals, United States National Museum, enabled him to determine with some accuracy their animal food which contained bones. In all this mass of bones not a single fragment of the bones of the bison was found. Does this mean that the town was deserted before the bison came into this region? They were later found in some numbers here.⁴⁹

Myer presented the proportions of animal food represented in a table:⁵⁰

Animal	Percent
Virginia deer (no bones of elk, moose, or bison)	85
Wild turkey	10
Box turtle, snapping turtle, black bear, raccoon, skunk, gray fox, fox squirrel, cottontail rabbit, small birds, fish	5
Total	100

He went further to note that "Only one fresh-water drum fish, two fresh-water suckers, and one other fish were found in the two groups. A very few mussel shells and not over a dozen periwinkle

⁴⁸ Richard I. Ford, "Paleoethnobotany in American Archaeology", *Advances in Archaeological Method and Theory*, Volume 2:285-336, 1979.

⁴⁹ Myer 1928, pg. 493.

⁵⁰ Myer 1928, pg. 607.

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shells were found on both sites, outside of the graves."⁵¹ Although studies of animal remains from archaeological sites were a decade or two ahead of those for plant remains during the early twentieth century, Myer's work still stands as an early attempt to not only have the bones identified, but also to determine their significance at the site (Figures 17-18). As noted by Neil Robison:

*The first two decades of the twentieth century were rather uneventful regarding the appearance of zooarchaeological reports. Nonetheless, within this early developmental period there were a few bright spots foreshadowing what was to come; reports such as those by Harlan Smith (1910), F.B. Loomis, and D.B. Young (1912), and W.J. Wintemberg (1919)... Although Wintemberg in 1919 advocated approaches now commonly attempted in zooarchaeological studies, unfortunately his suggestions were largely ignored for the next 30 years...*⁵²

Myer's systematic efforts to retain, identify, and interpret plant and animals remains from Fewkes, while simplistic by modern standards, were decades ahead of his time in envisioning what paleoethnobotanical and zooarchaeological studies could accomplish.

In addition, Myer also incorporated the efforts of Dr. Ales Hrdlicka to examine human remains from both the Fewkes and Gordon sites:

*The skeletal material from the graves was examined by Dr. A. Hrdlicka, curator, Division of Physical Anthropology, United States National Museum, whose reports appears at the end of this volume.*⁵³

Ales Hrdlicka (1869-1943) founded and became the first curator of physical anthropology at the U.S. National Museum in 1903. He is additionally noted for launching the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* in 1918 and the driving force behind founding of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in 1928. Again, Myer's efforts to incorporate specialists in the study of human remains was among the first such efforts in Tennessee and the southeast -- directly involved in the emergence of the field of bioarchaeology during the 1920s and 1930s.

For interpretations of the geology of the site, Myer turned to Mr. Wilbur A. Nelson, Tennessee State Geologist and Dr. R.S. Bassler, paleontologist and geologist with the United States Museum. The incorporation of specialists to assist in interpretation of the geology at Fewkes foreshadows the emergence of the field of geoarchaeology by several decades.

⁵¹ Myer 1928, pg. 607.

⁵² Neil D. Robison, "Zooarchaeology: Its History and Development," In *The Zooarchaeology of Eastern North America: History, Method and Theory, and Bibliography*, edited by Arthur E. Bogan and Neil D. Robison, pp. 1-26. Tennessee Anthropological Association Miscellaneous Paper No. 12, 1987.

⁵³ Myer 1928, pg. 423.

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For interpretations of prehistoric structures and features discovered during the project, he turned to other friends and colleagues at the Bureau of American Ethnology, including some of the most prominent ethnologists of the day: Mr. Francis La Flesche (1857-1932), first Native American anthropologist, joined the Bureau of American Ethnology in 1910, retiring in 1929; Mr. James Mooney (1861-1921) Ethnologist with Bureau of American Ethnology; Dr. John R. Swanton (1873-1958), an ethnologist with the BAE for nearly forty years; Dr. Walter Hough (1859-1935), curator of ethnology at the United States National Museum; and Dr. Truman Michelson (1879-1938) -- linguist and anthropologist at the BAE from 1910 until his death.

Finally, Myer procured the services of a professional engineering firm to produce maps of the Fewkes Group (and nearby Travellers Rest archaeological site as well). Freeland-Roberts and Akers completed two plans of the Fewkes Group for \$96.06 (original blueprints are curated at the National Anthropological Archives).⁵⁴ One was rendered as the general site plan for Myer's 1928 publication (see Figure 5). The other was a plan for the proposed location and general design of the Fewkes Group National Monument.

Myer's efforts to complete a multi-disciplinary study of the Fewkes Group and further to seek its acquisition as a federal park or national monument is among the earliest examples of emerging professionalism in southeastern archaeology and the first significant archaeological preservation efforts in Tennessee. In fact, this represents one of the earliest efforts to create a National Monument east of the Mississippi River:

Last spring Dr. Fewkes, of the Bureau of Archaeology [sic], visited this county as the agent of Mr. Myer, and was particularly struck by the large mound at boiling spring, it being the only mound in this county that has apparently remained in its original form, all the others having been practically destroyed by the agency of the plow and by the trampling of cattle. Dr. Fewkes and Mr. Myer formed the tentative plan of having the bureau to make a small park inclosing the mounds, but in order to do this the citizens would have to pay for or donate the ground, as the bureau has no funds with which to purchase the land. If the citizens will do this, it is believed by Mr. Myer that the Bureau will improve the property and keep it in repair, and at the same time the public school could use the building freely.

Such a park should include the Academy lot and five or six acres to the south of it to be obtained by contract with the owner of the extra land. Should this is done, it is plain that it would be a great benefit to the neighborhood and would preserve the large mound for many

⁵⁴ "M.S. Roberts, Jr., J.C. Akers, F.E. Freeland, J.R. Currey, Jr., and W.H. Levine have incorporated in Tennessee the Freeland, Roberts Co., with a capital stock of \$25,000, to engage in general contracting in Nashville, Tenn." *Engineering News-Record* 84 (7), February 12, 1920, pg. 351. Today the firm is known as Hart-Freeland-Roberts and is primarily an architectural-engineering company. Martha Carver, 2008. *Tennessee's Survey Report for Historic Highway Bridges*. Ambrose Printing Company, Nashville.

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*years to be seen in the form in which the Indians saw it. All of this, of course, is yet, only prospective. Only three other small parks, for similar ends, are looked forward to by Dr. Fewkes in Tennessee out the thousands of mounds that are found in this state.*⁵⁵

Curation of the artifact assemblage from Myer's 1920 excavations by the Department of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution enhances the value of this project by allowing for future research (selected objects from 1920 are illustrated in Figures 17-21). For those years that he worked for the Bureau of American Ethnology he can be described as Tennessee's first professional archaeologist. Despite a lack of academic credentials, he was clearly in the mainstream of the emergence of modern archaeology and a direct predecessor of the better known founders of Tennessee archaeology who came in with the federal relief programs of the 1930s and later.

Modern Archaeological Investigations⁵⁶

In 1996, proposed improvements by the Department of Transportation to State Route 441 (Moores Lane) from Liberty Road to State Route 252 (Wilson Pike) initiated a series of archaeological survey and excavation projects. The Phase I archaeological survey included the placement of 10 shovel tests and one test unit of relevance to the park development. Their management summary indicates the presence of significant archaeological remains within the proposed right-of-way and proposed "archaeological testing, followed by mitigation of impacts through excavation and data recovery are recommended."⁵⁷ Phase II archaeological testing was conducted in December 1996 and were restricted to the right-of-way on the west side of Moores Lane (outside the Fewkes Group National Register boundaries). The Phase II testing documented the presence of "intact midden,"⁵⁸ structural remains, pit-like features, and above ground installations representing a possible residential area associated with the Fewkes Mound Complex. Large amounts of well-preserved prehistoric cultural debris were recovered, including ceramics, lithics, animal bone, and carbonized plant remains. Human skeletal elements associated with a single individual were identified but were not removed or otherwise disturbed."⁵⁹ In 1998, the firm conducted Phase III

⁵⁵ "Relics of Mound Builders Found," *Franklin Review-Appeal*, October 28, 1920.

⁵⁶ Kevin E. Smith and Christopher Hogan, "Archaeological Testing at Primm Park, Brentwood, Williamson County, Tennessee: Technical Report," *Report of Archaeological Investigations No. 1*, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. 2004.

⁵⁷ Dicks, A. Merrill and Glyn D. DuVall. 1996. Expanded Draft Report: Phase I Archaeological Investigation State Route 441 (Moores Lane) Liberty Road to State Route 252 (Wilson Pike) Brentwood, Williamson County, Tennessee. Report prepared for De Leuw Cather & Company and Tennessee Department of Transportation. DuVall & Associates, Inc., Franklin, Tennessee.

⁵⁸ The term "midden" is used by archaeologists to designate domestic waste dumps containing artifacts reflecting everyday life.

⁵⁹ Dicks, A. Merrill, Shane McCorkle, Scott Jones, and Robert A. Pace. 1997. Preliminary Report: Phase II Archaeological Testing of the Fewkes Site (40WM1), State Route 441 (Moores Lane), Williamson County, Tennessee. Report prepared by Gresham, Smith and Partners and Tennessee Department of Transportation. TDOT Archaeology File #95042. DuVall & Associates, Inc., Franklin, Tennessee.

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mitigation and data recovery within the proposed right-of-way west of Moores Lane (Figure 22).⁶⁰ The excavations revealed a significant residential area with an estimated five to seven structures, a bastioned palisade (which probably enclosed the entire Fewkes Group at some point in time), numerous pit features, and nineteen human burials (Figure 23). A very substantial artifact assemblage, including ceramics, lithics, and well preserved animal and plant remains were recovered. Due to a series of unfortunate circumstances, a final report was not completed for this project and only the faunal remains from the project have currently been analyzed and published (selected artifacts from the 1998 excavations are shown in Figures 24-27).⁶¹

Middle Tennessee State University Investigations, 2003-2004⁶²

In October 2003, on-going restoration of the Boiling Spring Academy building required removal of flooring on the first floor to repair broken joists. Removal of the flooring revealed a large number of prehistoric and historic artifacts scattered on the ground surface. Repairs to the floor joists required placement of a shallow (5-12 inch) trench approximately five feet in width and forty feet in length. Although the surface deposits were clearly heavily churned by rodent and other animal activity, they did contain artifacts that could be used to interpret both the prehistoric Native American use of this part of the Fewkes sites and the later story of the Boiling Spring Academy.

Limited excavations were conducted in two phases (November 2003 and February-March 2004) under the direction of Kevin E. Smith and Christopher Hogan (Figure 28). During November 2003, salvage excavations were conducted beneath the floorboards of the Academy building, including excavation of the shallow trench and systematic artifact recovery. Subsequently, the City of Brentwood contracted with the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University to develop background and interpretive information on the academy. A portion of that contract provided funding for a single field assistant to conduct test excavations in areas for proposed parking, sidewalks, underground utility lines, and trails. Equipment, supplies, and additional labor was donated by the Program in Anthropology at Middle Tennessee State University.

⁶⁰ Dicks, A. Merrill. 1997. Research Design and Scope of Work: Proposed Phase III Archaeological Data Recovery at the Fewkes Site (40WM1), State Route 441 (Moores Lane), Williamson County, Tennessee. Prepared for James & Associates, Inc. and Tennessee Department of Transportation. DuVall & Associates, Inc., Franklin, Tennessee; Dicks, A Merrill, Christopher Hazel, and Shane McCorkle. 1999. "1998 Archaeological Investigations at the Fewkes Site (40WM1), Williamson County, Tennessee," Paper presented at the Annual Conference on Current Research in Tennessee Archaeology, Nashville.

⁶¹ The company went out of business prior to submitting a final report. The artifacts and notes were transferred to the Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Department of Environment and Conservation for long-term curation and potential future analysis and reporting.

⁶² Smith, Kevin E. and Christopher Hogan. 2004. Archaeological Testing at Primm Park, Brentwood, Williamson County, Tennessee: Technical Report. Report of Archaeological Investigations No. 1, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Middle Tennessee State University.

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Artifacts ($n=4634$) were recovered from beneath the academy: 1,447 prehistoric artifacts; 1,446 animal bones (and fragments), and numerous bulk materials such as wood charcoal, fired/burned clay fragments, coal, daub, burned limestone, and plaster. Most of the historic period artifacts recovered were architectural in nature -- window glass, nails, wood, plaster and bricks (Figures 29-30).

Application of window glass dating formulae indicate that the academy building did not have windows during its original construction, and suggest that renovation of the building as a church and school took place between 1870 and 1880 (Figure 31). Nails recovered from the academy building include 89 percent cut and 11 percent wire nails. No handwrought nails were recovered. This distribution is in line with the historic documentation -- suggesting a construction date after the 1820s, but before around 1855. Additionally, the ratio suggests that major renovation of the building took place prior to 1880-1890 when cut nails declined rapidly in popularity.⁶³

The most significant of the remaining artifacts are items that are identifiable as "school related" and other small objects that fell beneath the floorboards during the nineteenth century. Among the items that can confidently be related to uses of the building as a school are fragments of plaster "blackboard" identical to the surviving blackboard on the second floor of the structure. The concentration of these artifacts in joists 2C, 3C, and 3N (directly beneath the second story blackboard) indicates the likelihood that these are fragments of that very same architectural feature. However, it should be noted that this blackboard relates to dual uses of the building as a church and school after renovation in the 1870s-1880s - the surviving blackboard spans the area where an interior chimney was located in the 1832 structure. These interior chimneys were apparently removed and replaced with a coal-burning stove when the church was renovated. In addition to the blackboard plaster, forty-seven fragments of slate writing tablets and eleven whole or partial slate pencils (made of slate or soapstone) were recovered (Figure 30).

Relatively inconsequential numbers of historic ceramics ($n=7$) and curved glass ($n=43$) were recovered. The very small size of these fragments prevents much in the way of detailed interpretation, but a few patterns can be noted. Nearly half of the ceramic sherds are expensive porcelain, including one with a copper-lustre decoration. Generally the ceramics would tend to support an affluent clientele for the academy during the mid-19th century. Curved glass recovered from the excavations includes small fragments of probable tumblers or drinking glasses, decorative glassware, lamp/lantern chimney, and 39 fragments of bottle glass. The dominance of colorless glass suggests that most of the bottles date after 1860 and potentially as late as the 1890s. Other small items of interest include a glass bead, two shell buttons, and a marble. The two shell buttons are relatively small saucer-shaped buttons with two holes, suggesting they probably derive from children's clothing.

⁶³ Smith and Hogan, 2004.

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A large quantity of prehistoric artifacts was also recovered from beneath the academy floor. The density distribution of prehistoric artifacts offers some suggestion of the presence of prehistoric structures or pits. Of particular significance is the distribution of "daub." The typical Mississippian house of Middle Tennessee was of wattle-and-daub construction -- the walls were constructed of woven mats plastered or "daubed" with clay. The vessel forms represented tend to suggest a long occupation of the Fewkes Group spanning both early (ca. AD 1000-1250) and middle Mississippian (ca. AD 1250-1450) periods. The common presence of bowls exhibiting notched rim appliqué strips indicates a substantive occupation after AD 1325. A small fragment of ceramic known as *O'Byam Incised* variety Stewart was recovered. Comparative data suggests that this decorative technique probably dates to the period from A.D. 1325-1450 in the Nashville area.⁶⁴

A moderate sample of chipped and ground stone artifacts was recovered from beneath the academy building. While most of these artifacts reflect general waste from the manufacture and maintenance of stone tools, several important patterns can be noted from the overall assemblage. The residents in this portion of the site had access to a number of non-local cherts and other types of stone. Despite the small sample, five examples of Dover chert and one fragment of greenstone were recovered. Sources of Dover chert are geographically restricted in distribution to the Western Highland Rim and Tennessee River valley far to the west of Fewkes and was probably acquired through trade with Mississippian peoples in that region. Although no formal source studies have been conducted to date, the greenstone probably originates in the southern Appalachians to the east of the Central Basin (Figure 32).

Three excavation units were placed adjacent to the proposed handicapped access areas on the northwestern corner of the park. The "farm road" and sloping bank in this location appear to be relatively modern features of the landscape and have probably removed most if not all of the midden and features that once existed in this portion of the site. Two excavation units were placed between the academy building and Moores Lane in locations of proposed trails leading to the academy entrance (and in areas that might be impacted by placement of subsurface utility lines).

Test Units N985E980 and N1005E981 (Figure 28). This portion of the site is largely undisturbed below current ground surface. As part of the academy "yard," this portion of the site does not appear to have even been plowed or otherwise substantially disturbed. Approximately 10-15 cm of what appeared to be mixed deposits containing fragmentary historic and prehistoric artifacts. At 10-12 cm below the current ground surface, an intact and dense nineteenth-century midden or trash-filled feature was encountered consisting of large brick fragments, nails, and other historic artifacts. Beneath that zone, what appears to be a transitional strata containing both 19th century and prehistoric artifacts was identified. Underling this transitional zone, an intact purely prehistoric midden deposit was identified. The unit excavation was terminated at 40 cm below current ground

⁶⁴ K.E. Smith, D. Brock, and C. Hogan, 2004. "Interior Incised Plates and Bowls from the Nashville Basin of Tennessee," *Tennessee Archaeology* 1(1):49-57.

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surface -- the prehistoric midden continued beneath the base of this excavation unit to an undetermined depth.

Unit N927E969 (Figure 28). Immediately beneath the sod, a zone of dark humic clay approximately 20 cm in thickness was excavated. The zone was largely void of artifacts and appears to be relatively recently redeposited soils. Beneath this zone, largely undisturbed prehistoric midden was encountered containing relatively substantial quantities of prehistoric artifacts and charcoal. This zone extends from about 20 cm below current surface to about 40 cm below the current surface. At the base of this midden, three prehistoric postholes were identified.

Unit N917E961 (Figure 28). Immediately beneath the sod, an approximately 25 cm thick zone of dense gravelly clay and stream worn pebbles was encountered. This zone may be related to landscaping prior to construction of State Route 441. Beneath this strata was a (transitional?) zone very similar to that above, but without stream worn pebbles. This zone was underlain by approximately 12 cm of largely culturally sterile light brown loamy clay. At approximately 40 cm below current surface, intact prehistoric midden was encountered, including daub, charcoal, and other artifacts. The unit was continued to a depth of about 70 cm below current surface -- the midden continued to an undetermined depth.

The density of historic period artifacts in Unit N985E980 appears related to a trash dump or trash-filled feature established during use of the building as the academy from 1832 to the Civil War or later. The scatter of brick rubble and artifacts is exposed in the erosional gully only a few meters to the south of this unit, and we suspect that the deposit is continuous. Although few of the artifacts are tightly diagnostic, the presence of a single "flow blue" ceramic sherd suggests a likely date range of 1844-1860 (although this decorative technique was briefly reintroduced from 1900-1910). Other artifacts also suggest an early academy-related deposit -- including the significant quantities of slate tablet fragments, fragments of early wine bottles, tobacco pipes, a clothing rivet, and bone button. The excavations clearly supports that the western yard area holds intact nineteenth-century deposits (Figure 33).

The distribution of prehistoric artifacts is much more consistent in the excavation units. The notable areas of low density are on the northern periphery of the site, where substantial prior ground disturbance during construction of the old farm road has apparently removed much of the midden and features.

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Boiling Springs Academy was constructed in 1832.⁶⁶ The substantial two-story academy opened its doors to students in January 1833 under the direction of Mr. J. McCown Tilford, a Cumberland University graduate.⁶⁷ The academy offered classes at three levels with each term lasting five and a half months. The first level cost \$8 per term and students learned reading, writing, and arithmetic. The second level, at \$10 per term, incorporated the study of grammar and geography. The most advanced level taught students Latin and Greek languages, as well as sciences at \$14 per term. Archaeological excavations uncovered expensive porcelain dating to the use of the academy, indicating that the students likely hailed from affluent families. The combination of size and enduring masonry construction resulted in the establishment of a notable and permanent educational building. Students from outside the community who required board were housed by families who lived in the vicinity.

A fourth *Western Weekly Review* announcement in the October 17, 1834 edition advertised the need for a teacher at the academy: "A Teacher Wanted - to take charge of the Boiling Springs Academy. Good testimonials required. Application can be made to Joseph Crockett, Esq., or Major Wm. Hadley. By order of the Trustees."

Few early references to the Academy have been uncovered, leaving many unanswered questions about the school's formative years. Although schools commonly advertised through catalogues, which listed the faculty, courses offered, student rosters, and information about their facility and fees, no such documentation has been found for Boiling Spring Academy. Adding to the mystery of the early years is the 1831 newspaper reference to the building as the "Academy and Meeting House," which suggests the facility served multiple functions. Efforts to link this school with a religious affiliation have also proven difficult, although evidence suggests Presbyterian involvement. For instance, Goodspeed's history of Williamson County notes, "In addition to the church at Franklin, the Presbyterians have an old established organization at Little Harpeth..."⁶⁸ Historical mysteries aside, the construction of this impressive early nineteenth-century brick structure demonstrates the community's early commitment to education.

Families in the neighborhoods surrounding the academy housed students who required board. While the identities of most early Boiling Springs Academy students also remain elusive, one student became a pioneering citizen of Fresno County, California. According to a history of Fresno

⁶⁵ Information on the Boiling Spring Academy is drawn from two primary sources: T. Vance Little, *Historic Brentwood*, Brentwood TN: J.M. Publications, 1985; and Sarah Jackson Martin and Caneta Skelley Hankins, "Primm Park: Place of mystery and history," Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University. 2004.

⁶⁶ Notice to subscribers, *Western Weekly Review*, June 17, 1831. State Charter of 1832 lists William Hadley, Ferdinand Stith, James H. Wilson, Joseph Crockett, and Andrew Crockett as trustees.

⁶⁷ *Western Weekly Review*, December 24, 1832 and January 23, 1833.

⁶⁸ Goodspeed Publishing Company, *History of Tennessee Illustrated, Historical, and Biographical Sketches of the Counties of Maury, Williamson, Rutherford, Wilson, Bedford, and Marshall*. 1887.

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County, Judge S. H. Hill was born in Williamson County, Tennessee, in 1822. Hill, whose father served as Williamson County Sheriff for many years leading up to the Civil War, "finished his studies at Boiling Springs Academy in 1840." After working as a clerk in Nashville, Hill spent much of the 1840s traveling as a soldier in both the Second Tennessee Regiment and the Second Regiment of the Illinois Volunteers during the Mexican War. He taught nine years in the Ray County, Missouri, public schools before moving west to California, where he organized the first public school in Fresno County and served as Superintendent. Hill served as Justice of the Peace from 1875 to 1889 and is considered a prominent figure among the pioneers of Fresno County.⁶⁹

During the rehabilitation project, two chalked signatures were discovered on the upstairs wood paneling (Photograph #21) reading "L.W. Hasslock Aug. 12 1904" and "James Howington." The former is probably Louis Whorley Hasslock, born 1886 in Nashville, Davidson County, who would have been sixteen at the time of the chalking.⁷⁰ His sister Clara Whorley Hasslock was a noted educator, nutritionist, and author in Tennessee.⁷¹

By January 1887, the school changed from a private academy to a public school as Williamson County school records indicate that Miss Lillie Frost, daughter of Brentwood physician S.B. Frost, received payment of \$25 for her teaching services at "school #1 at Boiling Spring." The records also contain receipts for wood, coal, and maintenance at the school. The public school at Boiling Spring coincided with the building's use as a multi-denominational community meeting house beginning sometime prior to 1900. At this time, the front entrance of the academy was replaced with a window and a new entrance was constructed on the gable-end of the building, reflecting the church members' desire to create the look and feel of a "proper church." Boiling Spring continued to operate simultaneously as a church and public school at late as 1920 as evidenced by receipts for a teacher's salary paid to Miss Will Nelle McArthur in 1918 and a notation in a 1920 Franklin newspaper that "the public school could use the building freely."⁷²

Sometime between 1921 and 1926, the building was abandoned as a school. In 1927, the Primm family acquired the tract as part of the larger farm complex.⁷³ For most of the twentieth century, Boiling Spring Academy was used as an agricultural building, storing feed corn and curing tobacco.

The building has maintained its original form despite some alterations. The rectangular structure is built on coursed, dressed limestone block with bearing walls made from hand-made brick laid in

⁶⁹ *A Memorial and Biographical History of the Counties of Fresno, Tulare, and Kern, California* (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1892), 554.

⁷⁰ United States Federal Census, 1900.

⁷¹ "Clara Whorley Hasslock (1884-1975) Papers, 1884-1973," Accession Number 1992.085, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville.

⁷² "Boiling Springs" Vertical File, School Records, Williamson County Archives, Franklin, Tennessee; "Relics of Mound Builders Found," *Franklin Review-Appeal*, October 28, 1920.

⁷³ John H. Womack to T.P. Primm, Williamson County Deed Book 55, pp. 468-469.

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common bond on all four elevations. Color variations in the brick indicate that several different firings were probably used in the construction (Figure 39; Photographs 14-17).

The present entrance is located in the west gable end (Photograph 14). This elevation is a plain undecorated surface broken only by a central door with transom. A major structural defect has been patched with new brick and mortar (Photograph 35). The north and south elevations are divided into five bays. Limestone lintels adorn windows on both elevations, with those on the south featuring decorative work and those on the north remaining plain (Photograph 18). The lintels located at the first story center window on the south elevation and the first story right window on the north elevation are longer than the others (Photographs 15, 17). This suggests, when coupled with the fact that the present entrance on the west elevation features no lintel, that the south elevation was the original entrance. Similarly, the present northeast corner window was also a rear door with a longer undecorated lintel.

In 2003, much of the Primm farm was sold as part of the Montclair residential development. However, Boiling Spring Academy and the Fewkes Group were donated by Charles and Dorothy Primm to the City of Brentwood to be developed as Primm Park. Leatherwood, Inc., a firm specializing in historic rehabilitation, replaced the academy's roof, completed masonry repairs, restored windows and doors, and reset stone foundation and exterior steps (Figure 34). Interior renovations included re-plastering of the walls, dry-walling of the first floor ceiling, renovation of the heart-of-poplar flooring, and installation of heart pine ceiling on the second floor (Photographs 19-20, 24-25).

Recent History

Primm Park, a Brentwood city park including both the Fewkes Group and Boiling Spring Academy, is managed by the Brentwood Historical Commission. The park is currently open daily and a portion of the Brentwood greenway system passes through the eastern periphery of the park. The park includes a small parking area on the southern end of the property and a trail system with interpretive signage (Photographs #1, 7-9).

After completion of the rehabilitation project, a grand opening of the Boiling Spring Academy was held on April 10, 2005 (Figure 35). Also in 2005, the City of Brentwood was presented with a Preservation Achievement Award by the Tennessee Preservation Trust for their rehabilitation of the structure. The academy building is currently open to the public on the third Sunday of the month, May through October, under management of the Boiling Spring Academy Docent Committee. In addition, six local public schools participate in the commission sponsored Boiling Spring Academy Program (Figure 36). Each year approximately 900 period-costumed Brentwood third-graders step back in time for "A Day in 1845." The commission developed a classroom program taught by retired teachers which includes penmanship, arithmetic (using slates and slate pencils), history, recitation, a spelling bee, and an activity book.

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The prehistoric human remains and associated burial objects removed during the 1998 TDOT mitigation project were reinterred in Primm Park pursuant to state law and an agreement approved by the national NAGPRA Review Committee on November 22, 2010. As permitted under state law and approved in consultation with the national NAGPRA Review Committee, Native American representatives (from the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma) conducted a private reinterment ceremony.⁷⁴

Concluding Statement

The Fewkes Group archaeological site is an approximately 20.72 acre property in Brentwood, Williamson County, Tennessee. The property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A for its national significance in Science, local significance in Education; Criterion C for local significance in the architecture of the Boiling Spring Academy; and criterion D for its local significance, because it has yielded and retains the potential to yield significant information on prehistoric Mississippian lifeways (Archeology-Prehistoric) and historic activities associated with the Boiling Spring Academy (Archeology-Historic-Non-Aboriginal).

The property meets the registrations requirements for Property Type I Mound Complexes in the Mississippian Cultural Resources of the Central Basin of Tennessee, A.D. 900 to A.D. 1450 MPS (NRIS 64500611): "Due to the variety of research topics this property type can address, as well as their rapid rate of destruction, all undisturbed and partially disturbed mound complexes should be considered eligible for listing."⁷⁵

MPS Data Requirements for Registration

The MPS lists seven data requirements for registration of mound complexes, each of which is addressed individually below.⁷⁶

1. The site must contain features, artifacts or other data that can be used to temporally identify the site as Mississippian.

Historic collecting and digging, along with modern archaeological investigations, have documented significant surviving features temporally identifiable as Mississippian (platform mound and other earthworks, fortifications, residential structures); diagnostic artifacts; and radiocarbon dates of Mississippian age. Historic documentation supports that Mound 1, the largest platform mound at the site, has never been substantially disturbed by plowing, antiquarian digging, or looting. As

⁷⁴ Michael C. Moore (State Archaeologist) to Jim Fyke (Commissioner), Emails of October 14, 2010 and November 23, 2010.

⁷⁵ Multiple Property Submission, page F-3.

⁷⁶ Multiple Property Submission, page F-8.

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such, it represents an extraordinarily rare example of a pristine platform mound in the southeastern United States.

2. The site must contain features or other cultural materials that can be used to infer the activities of the site residents.

The site contains intact public architecture (mounds, earthworks, and non-residential structures), residential structures, and intact sub-plowzone midden (refuse) deposits associated with residential areas.

3. The site must contain faunal, floral, or shell remains that may potentially be used to establish subsistence patterns, processing methods and/or season of site occupation.

Soil conditions on most of the site are highly conducive to the preservation of faunal, charred floral, and shell remains. The 1998 excavations yielded nearly 38,000 faunal specimens that have yielded significant new insights into the nature of Mississippian subsistence patterns and processing methods.⁷⁷ Myer submitted the botanical samples from his excavations to Dr. W.E. Safford, who noted. "The [maize] grains have been removed from the cob, but they are so well preserved that their size and shape can be easily seen, showing that the variety to which they belong is that known as the many-rowed tropical flint, about halfway between a true flint and a popcorn."⁷⁸

4. The site must contain the remains of one or more individuals in a sufficient state of preservation to determine sex, age category, and/or pathologies.⁷⁹

Numerous prehistoric interments were identified during early and modern investigations. Human remains excavated in 1920 were examined by Dr. Ales Hrdlicka at the Smithsonian Institution, who identified age, sex, and pathologies. The nineteen individuals removed in 1998 were identified by

⁷⁷ Tanya M. Peres, 2005. *Zooarchaeological Remains from the Fewkes Site (40WM1), Tennessee*. Technical Report 549, Program for Archaeological Research, University of Kentucky; Tanya M. Peres, 2010. "Zooarchaeological Remains from the 1998 Fewkes Site Excavations, Williamson County, Tennessee," *Tennessee Archaeology* 5(1):100-125; Amy C. Howell, 2011. *Zooarchaeological Evidence for Cooking and Food Processing Techniques at the Fewkes Site (40WM1), Williamson County, Tennessee*. Anthropology Senior Thesis, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Middle Tennessee State University.

⁷⁸ W.E. Safford to Myer, Letter of March 28, 1921, National Anthropological Archives MS 2171.

⁷⁹ Since approval of the MPS in 1989, the Tennessee legislature has extended protection to all human burials, regardless of temporal age. Current state law does not allow for excavation of human interments on state or private lands for research purposes, although it does provide a process by which landowners can petition the Chancery Court to remove and relocate burials when proposed land uses are inconsistent with proper reverence for the deceased. As a result, although the potential exists theoretically to meet this registration requirement, in practice, this data category is currently unrecoverable. See Michael C. Moore, "An Updated Review of the Tennessee State Cemetery Law and Other Statutes Regarding Prehistoric Burial Removal," *Tennessee Anthropologist* 23(1&2):58-68, 1998.

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age, sex, and pathologies noted prior to reinterment in 2010.⁸⁰ Although significant disturbance from agricultural activities in some areas is established, historic documentation suggests that only minimal antiquarian excavation or looting of burials was permitted by the owners of the property. As such, cemeteries located on the site are likely to retain a high degree of integrity.

5. The site must exhibit evidence of wattle and daub structures or other features that can be inferred to represent areas of domestic residence.

During Myer's 1920 excavations, he noted that "in the undisturbed grassy lawn of Boiling Spring Academy and in the adjoining pasture land, were found many more or less faint saucerlike depressions, which previous experience in Tennessee explorations indicated were traces of ancient buildings. The large space on [Figure 6] to the east and north of mound No. 1 is crowded with these evidences of structures. There were also indications that the portion of the town west of mounds Nos. 2 and 3 had a large number of buildings. Limited funds did not admit of a full exploration of these interesting remains. Only nine of the most discernible depressions in this part of the town have been placed on the map [Figure 6]... No. 6 was explored in order to secure proof as to the character of these saucerlike depressions" (Figure 37).⁸¹ The 1998 archaeological excavations documented the remains of at least five residential structures -- corroborating Myer's statement that the area west of Mounds 2 and 3 had a large number of residential structures. The 2003-2004 MTSU excavations produced substantive indirect evidence (daub and domestic garbage) supporting the presence of at least one residential structure beneath the Boiling Spring Academy building.

6. The site must retain undisturbed (or partially disturbed) spatial relationships among features and artifacts, or demonstrate that reconstruction of these relationships is possible.

Although plowing has minimally disturbed upper portions of some mounds and other features on the site, excavations clearly demonstrate that substantial portions of the mounds remain intact. In addition, documented sub-plowzone refuse deposits and structural remains indicate the potential for reconstruction of spatial relationships through additional research.

7. The site must contain exotic raw materials or artifacts whose source can be postulated to be outside the Central Basin.

Archaeological investigations have documented substantial quantities of non-local materials and artifacts, including Dover chert from the Western Highland Rim of Tennessee and greenstone (Hillabee chlorite schist) that probably derives from northeast Alabama or southeast Tennessee. Although the limited modern investigations have not confirmed the presence of other exotic

⁸⁰ Analysis sheet on file, Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Nashville.

⁸¹ Myer 1928, pg. 591.

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materials, confirmation of the site as the center of a Mississippian polity clearly indicates the probability that other exotic materials such as copper and marine shell are present at the site.

In sum, the Fewkes Group has the potential to contribute substantial information pertinent to all seven of the Research Questions and Objectives outlined in the MPS.⁸² Since approval of the MPS in 1989, substantial additional research on Central Basin Mississippian sites has been conducted and numerous publications produced. The Fewkes Group is now established as a substantial contributor to our understanding of Mississippian peoples in the Central Basin of Tennessee and has the potential to produce even greater information in the future.

The City of Brentwood has ensured future preservation of the site through creation of an historical park.

⁸² Multiple Property Submission, Pages E-8 through E-10.

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The Fewkes Group Archaeological Site and Boiling Spring Academy consists of 20.72 acres identified as parcels 35.01 and 35.03 on the attached Williamson County Tax Map. The parcels are bounded on the west by Moores Lane, on the south by the Montclair housing development and on the east by various privately owned parcels. The revised boundary is larger than that of the prior boundary (14 acres), which was based on excavation data from 1920. The revised boundary is based on more recent excavation projects from the 1990s and 2000s that more clearly define the modern boundaries of the site area.

The nominated property includes all of the extant acreage associated with the property and contains all known extant resources associated with the Fewkes Group Archaeological Site and Boiling Spring Academy. While some additional archaeological deposits associated with the Fewkes Group Archaeological Site may exist on private property on the west side of Moores Lane, the majority of these deposits were archaeologically excavated during the widening of Moores Lane in 1998.

See Figure 1.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs by: Kevin E. Smith, Middle Tennessee State University
Date: 2003, 2004, 2005, 2011
Digital Files: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

- 1 Entrance to parking area at southwest corner of property. View to east. 10/16/2011.
- 2 Primm Historic Park Sign. 10/16/2011.
- 3 Primm Park. View to north with Mound 2 in distance. 10/16/2011.
- 4 Mound #3. View to east. 10/16/2011.
- 5 Mound #4. View to northeast. 10/16/2011.
- 6 Primm Historic Park. View towards southeast corner of property. 10/16/2011.
- 7 Interpretive signage - "Archaeological Expedition." 10/16/2011.
8. Interpretive Signage - "Prehistoric Native American Indian Town". 10/16/2011.
- 9 Interpretive Signage - "Boiling Spring Academy." 10/16/2011.
- 10 Mound #2. View to northeast. 10/16/2011.
- 11 Mound #1. View to East. 10/16/2011.
- 12 Boiling Spring Academy. View to northeast. 10/16/2011.
- 13 Boiling Spring Academy and Mound #1. View to northeast. 10/16/2011.
- 14 Boiling Spring Academy. West Elevation. 10/16/2011.
- 15 Boiling Spring Academy. North Elevation. 10/16/2011.
- 16 Boiling Spring Academy. East Elevation. 10/16/2011.
- 17 Boiling Spring Academy. South Elevation. 10/16/2011.
- 18 Detail of Lintel over former south entrance. 10/16/2011.
- 19 Plaster blackboard, second floor. Note chimney "shadow." 10/16/2011.
- 20 Boiling Spring Academy. Second floor. View to west. 10/16/2011.
- 21 Chalked signatures discovered during rehabilitation project. Second floor, behind door shown in Photograph 20. 10/16/2011.
- 22 View into stairwell from second floor. 10/16/2011.
- 23 Details of steps. 10/16/2011.
- 24 Boiling Spring Academy. First floor. View to east. 10/16/2011.
- 25 First floor. View to west. 10/16/2011.
- 26 Primm Historic Park. View to southeast. 10/16/2011.
- 27 Primm Historic Park. View to east. 10/16/2011.
- 28 Composting toilet restroom facilities (non-contributing). 10/16/2011.
- 29 Modern outhouse reconstruction (non-contributing). 10/16/2011.
- 30 Floor joist during rehabilitation, showing initials "R Q". November 2003.
31. Mound 1, Fewkes Group. November 4, 2003. View to east.
32. Boiling Spring Academy with Mound 1 in background. November 4, 2003. View to southeast.

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- 33 Original chimney base and portion of firebox during rehabilitation, east end of Boiling Spring Academy. November 6, 2003.
 - 34 North elevation during rehabilitation, North length of lower right lintel. January 24, 2004.
 - 35 West elevation during rehabilitation, Note absence of lintel and early 20th century patch. January 24, 2004.
 - 36. South elevation during rehabilitation. Note longer lintel on first floor center for original main entrance. January 24, 2004.
 - 37 Closeup of first floor center window (former main entrance). January 24, 2004.
 - 38. View from top of Mound 1 looking southeast across Mound 2 and the plaza. March 20, 2004.

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2. Location of property boundaries on USGS Topographic Map
3. Farm boundary ca. 1917
4. Farm boundary in 1917 and modern parcels overlaid on satellite imagery
5. 1920 Map of the Fewkes Group
6. Photograph of Mound 1, ca. 1930
7. Mound 2 Excavation Plan View and Profile, October 1920
8. Fewkes Group, October 1920
9. Fewkes Group, October 1920
10. Boiling Spring Academy, October 1920
11. William Edward Myer, ca. 1915
12. Cover page, Archaeological Field notebook, William Edward Myer
13. Portion of Myer's African-American crew at Fewkes Group, October 1920
14. George Battle, one of Myer's crew at the Slave Burying Ground
15. Lawson Green, one of Myer's African-American field crew at Fewkes
16. Reconstruction drawings of ceramic vessels
17. Turkey bone with spur, Myer 1920 excavations
18. Deer astragalus cubes from Myer excavations
19. Miniature ceramic jar, Myer excavations
20. Miniature gaming stone from Myer excavations
21. Female effigy bottle excavated by Myer, October 1920
22. Location of 1998 Archaeological Excavations
23. 1998 Excavation Plan showing Structures, Features, and Palisade
24. Greenstone Celts (Ungrooved Axes) from 1998 excavations..
25. Drilled dog tooth pendant, 1998 Excavations
26. Female effigy bottle, 1998 Excavations
27. Ceramic ear ornament, 1998 Excavations
28. Schematic of 2003 Excavation Units
29. Selected architectural group artifacts from beneath the Academy, 2003 Excavations
30. Selected artifacts from 2003 Excavations beneath the Academy
31. Histogram of Window Glass Thickness and Resulting Dates of Panes
32. Greenstone Celt (Ungrooved Axe), 2003 Excavations
33. Excavations in Progress, March 13, 2003
34. Rehabilitation of Academy Building in Progress
35. West Elevation of Boiling Spring Academy, Grand Opening Ceremony, April 10, 2005
36. Interior of Academy showing furnishing uses for "A Day in 1845" during Grand Opening of Primm Park, April 10, 2005
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39 Floor Plans, Boiling Spring Academy

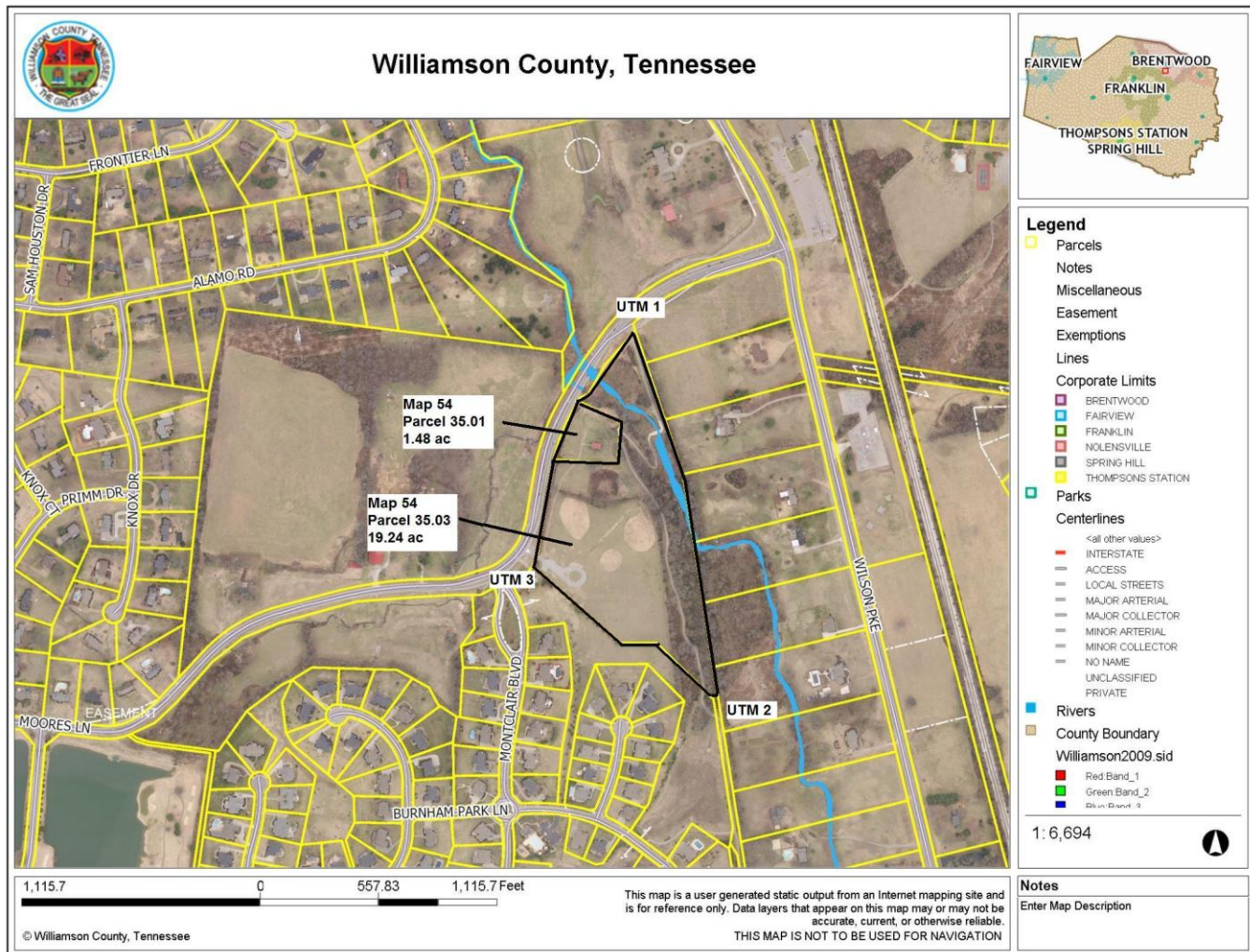
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FIGURE 1. Tax Map, Map 54, Parcels 35.01 (1.48 ac) and 35.03 (19.24 ac) and Key to UTMs.



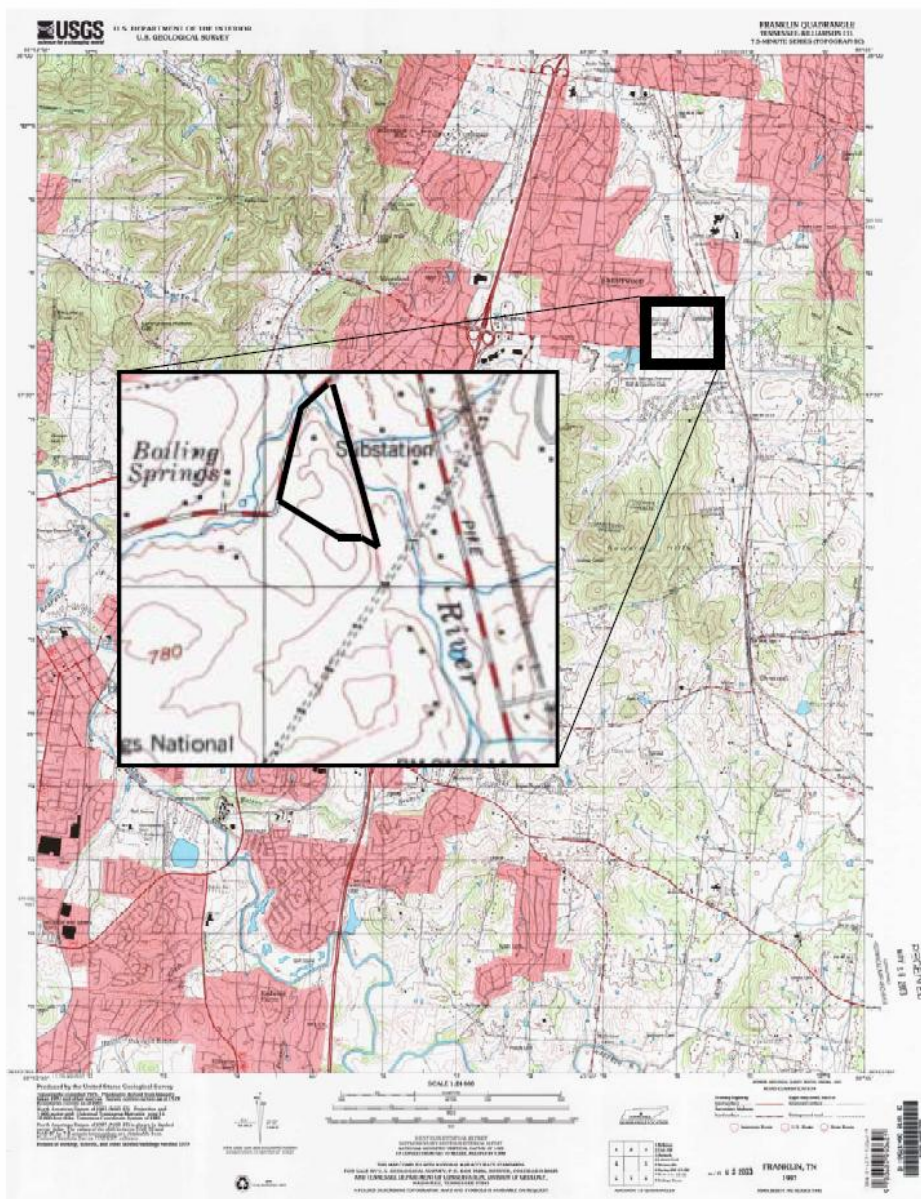
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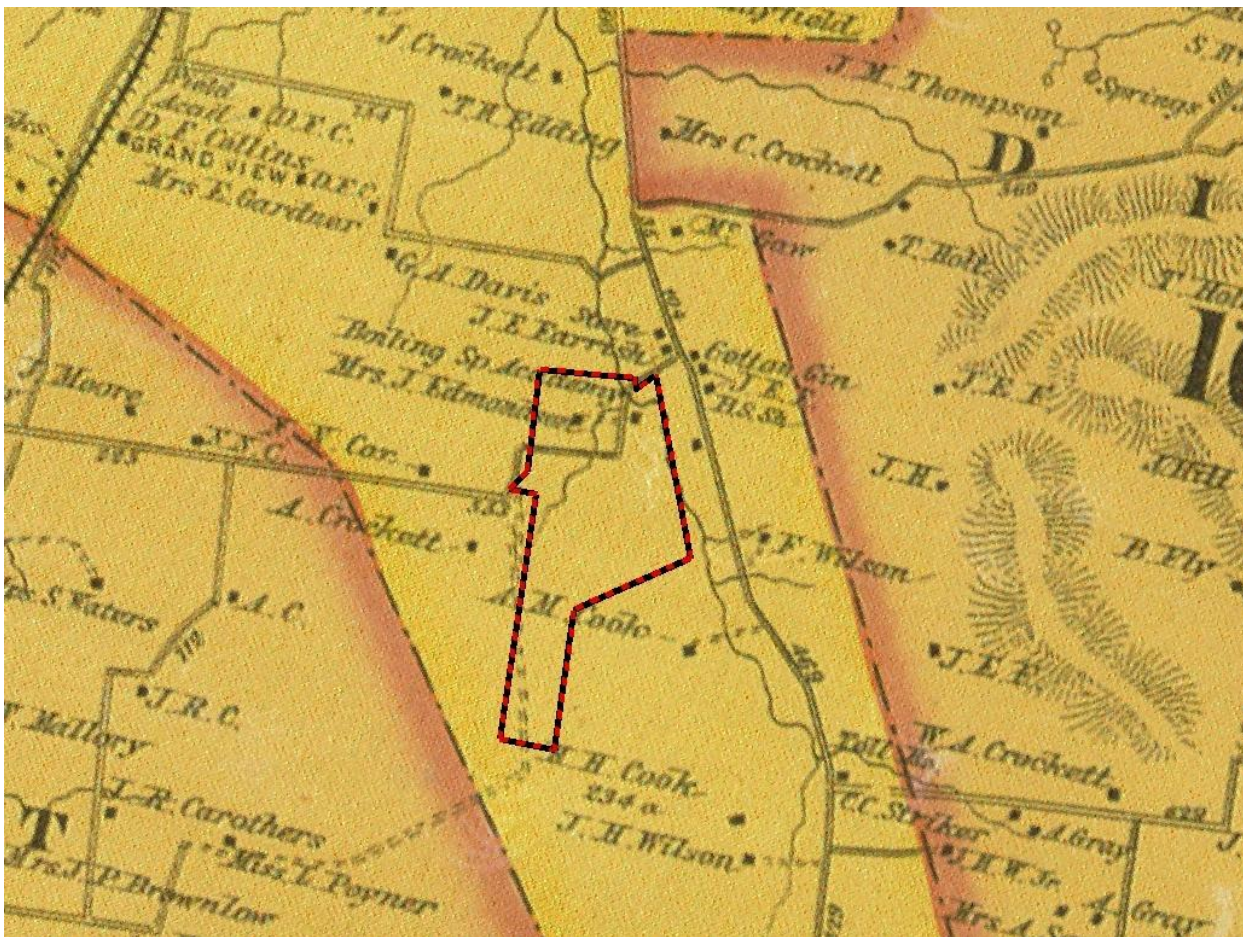
**FIGURE 2. Location of property boundaries on USGS Topographic Map, Franklin
Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series.**



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FIGURE 3. Farm boundary ca. 1917 overlaid on portion of 1878 D.G. Beers & Company Map of Williamson County (*Courtesy, Steve Rogers, Tennessee Historical Commission and Zada Law, Director, R.O. Fullerton Laboratory for Spatial Technology*)



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FIGURE 4. Farm boundary in 1917 and modern parcels overlaid on satellite imagery
(Courtesy Steve Rogers, Tennessee Historical Commission and Zada Law,
Director, R.O. Fullerton Laboratory for Spatial Technology)



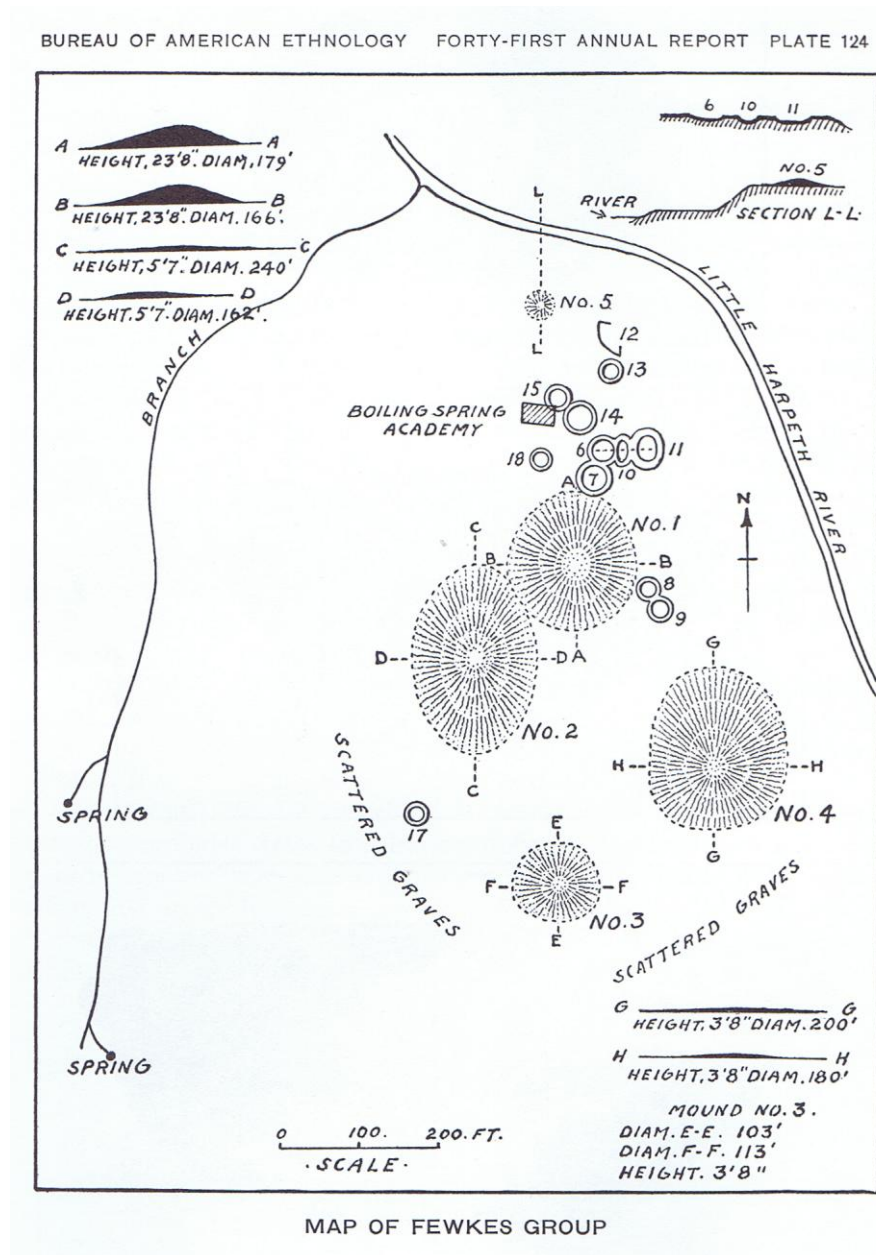
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FIGURE 5. 1920 Map of the Fewkes Group (Myer 1928).



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FIGURE 6. Photograph of Mound 1, ca. 1930. Note portion of roof of Boiling Spring Academy in right background. Reverse reads "Mound, near Franklin Tennessee" (*Tennessee Academy of Science Papers, Accession 96-103, Box 8, Folder 72, Tennessee State Library and Archives*).



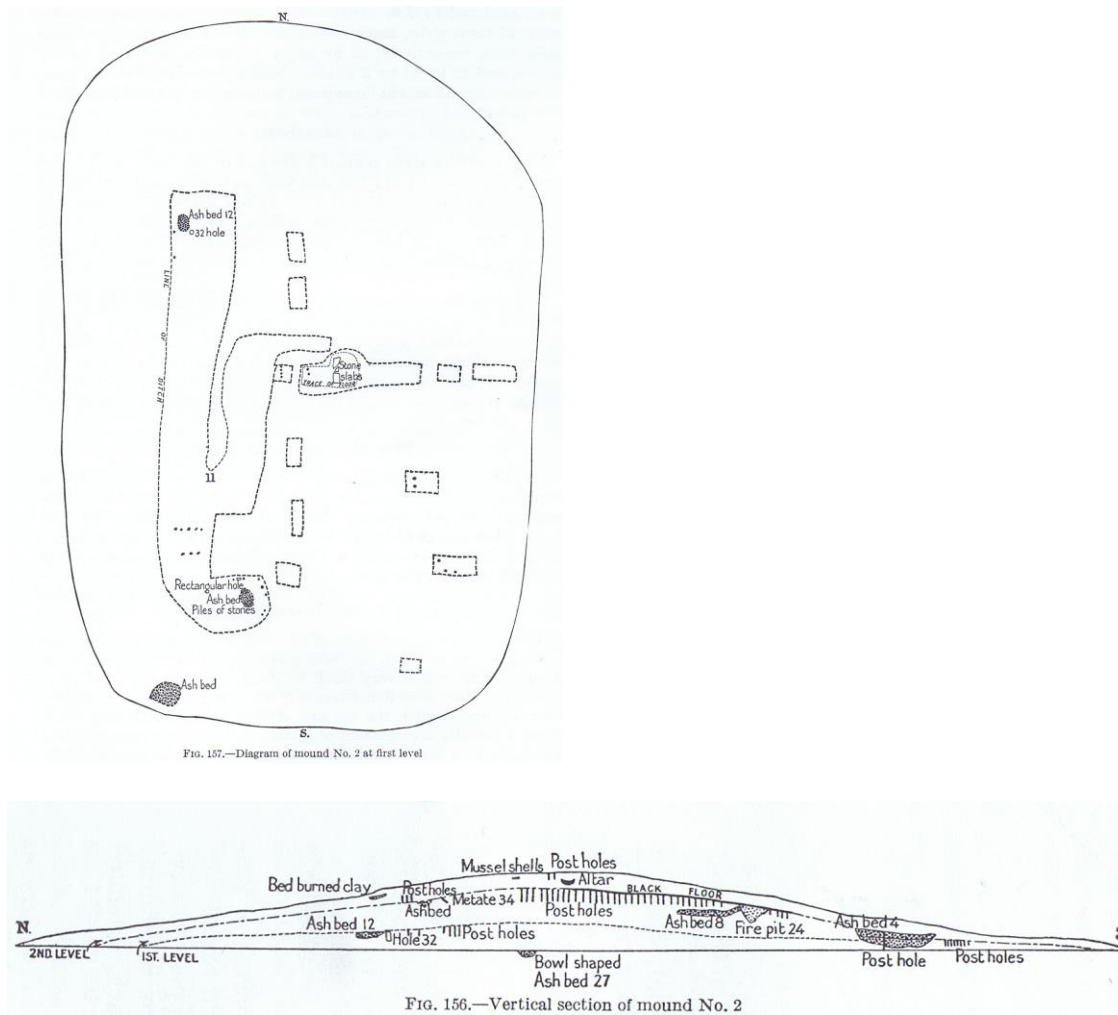
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FIGURE 7. Mound 2 Excavation Plan View and Profile, October 1920 (Myer 1928).



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FIGURE 8. Fewkes Group, October 1920. Handwritten on reverse: "Fewkes Group, Mounds Nos. 1 and 2 and 3. (The largest human figurine is on the low mound No.3)." MS 2149 Box 1, Folder 9, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.



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FIGURE 9. Fewkes Group, October 1920. Handwritten on reverse: "Fewkes Group, Mounds Nos. 1 and 4." MS 2149 Box 1, Folder 9, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.



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FIGURE 10. Boiling Spring Academy, October 1920. *MS 2149 Box 1, Folder 9, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.*



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FIGURE 11. William Edward Myer, ca. 1915 (*Better Roads and Street V(1):11*, 1915)



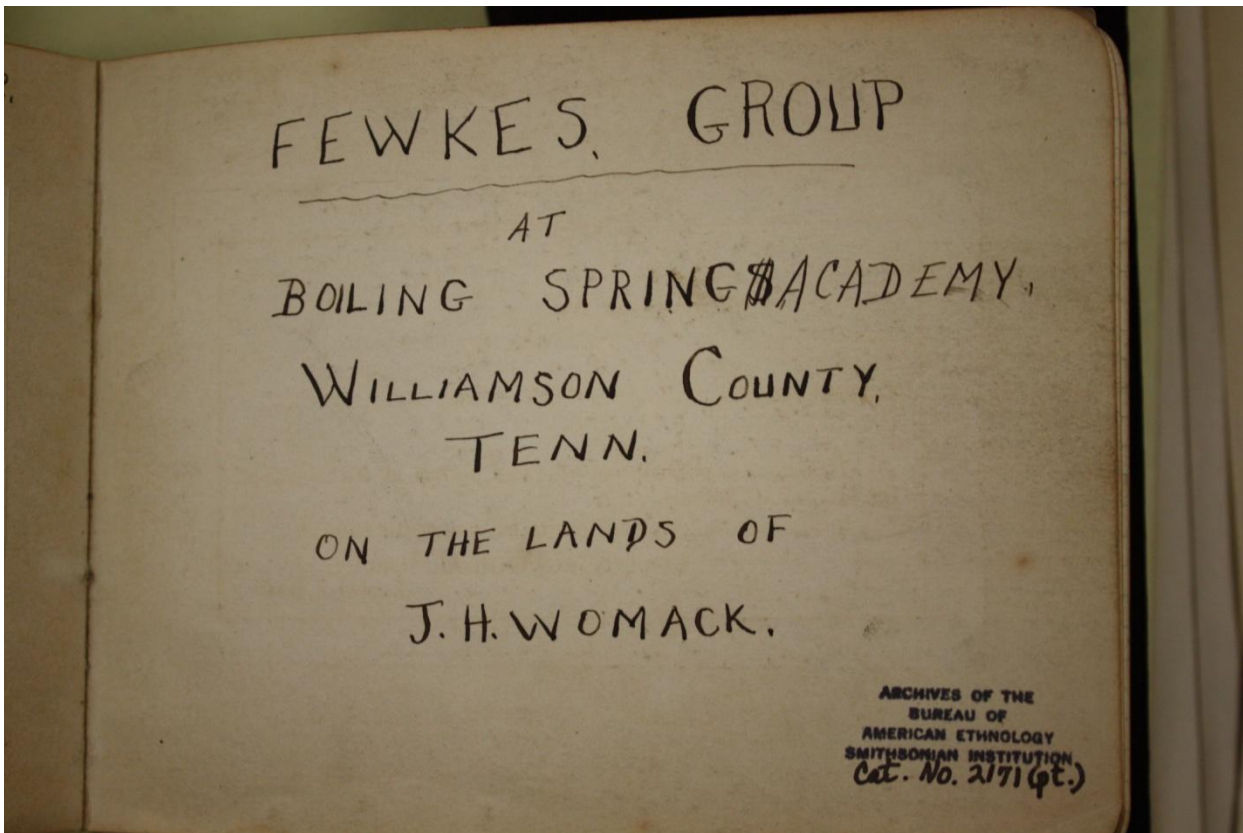
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**FIGURE 12. Cover page, Archaeological Field notebook, William Edward Myer. MS 2171,
National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.**



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FIGURE 13. Portion of Myer's African-American crew at Fewkes Group, October 1920. Reverse reads "The main trench. Holes 13, 28, 29, +31 are faintly shown. Mound No. 2, Fewkes Group." MS 2149 Box 1, Folder 9, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.



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FIGURE 14. George Battle, one of Myer's crew at the Slave Burying Ground. Handwritten on reverse: "Slave Burying Ground on eastern base of Mound No. 1, Fewkes Group Tenn, Man is G^o Battle". MS 2149 Box 1, Folder 9, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.



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FIGURE 15. Lawson Green, one of Myer's African-American field crew at Fewkes. Date unknown. (*Photograph courtesy, John F. Baker, Jr.*)



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FIGURE 16. Selected Reconstruction drawings of ceramic vessels (Myer 1928)

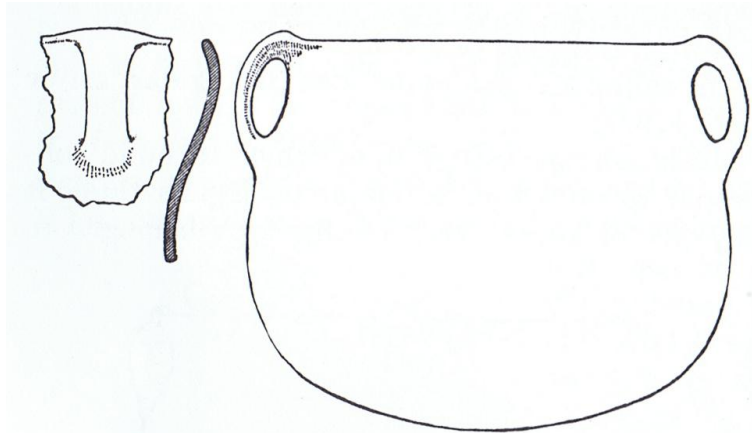


FIG. 166.—Restoration of pot No. 8 from mound No. 2

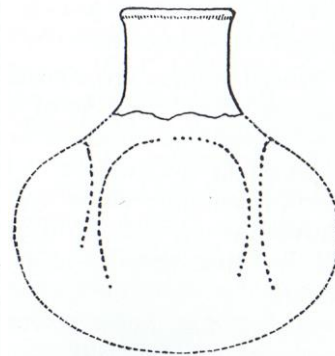


FIG. 167.—Restoration of vessel No. 3
from mound No. 2

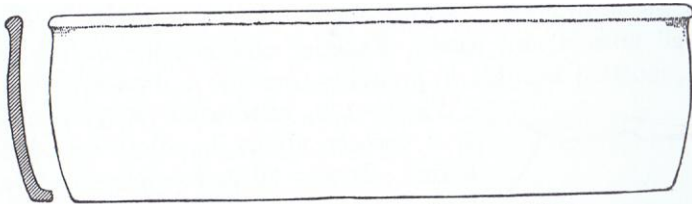


FIG. 169.—Restoration of vessel No. 24 from mound No. 2

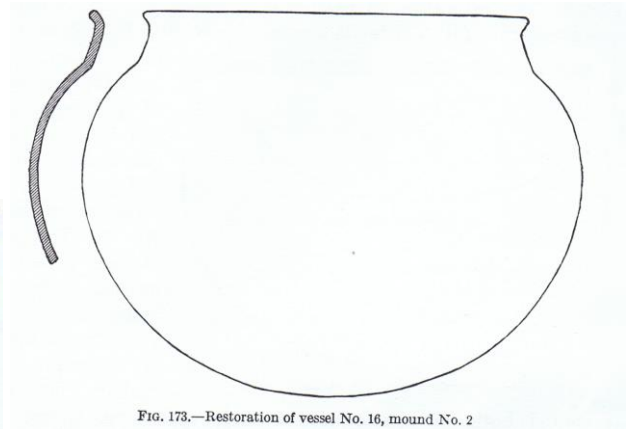


FIG. 173.—Restoration of vessel No. 16, mound No. 2

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FIGURE 17. Turkey bone with spur, Myer 1920 excavations (*Accession A317465-0, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution; Photograph Kevin E. Smith*)



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FIGURE 18. Deer astragalus cubes from Myer excavations (*Accession A317463, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution; Photograph Kevin E. Smith*)



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FIGURE 19. Miniature ceramic jar, Myer excavations. (*Accession A317468, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution; Photograph, Kevin E. Smith*)



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FIGURE 20. Miniature gaming stone from Myer excavations (*Accession 317452, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution; Photograph Kevin E. Smith*)



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FIGURE 21. Female effigy bottle excavated by Myer, October 1920 (*Accession A317473, Department of Anthropology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution; Photograph, National Museum of Natural History*)



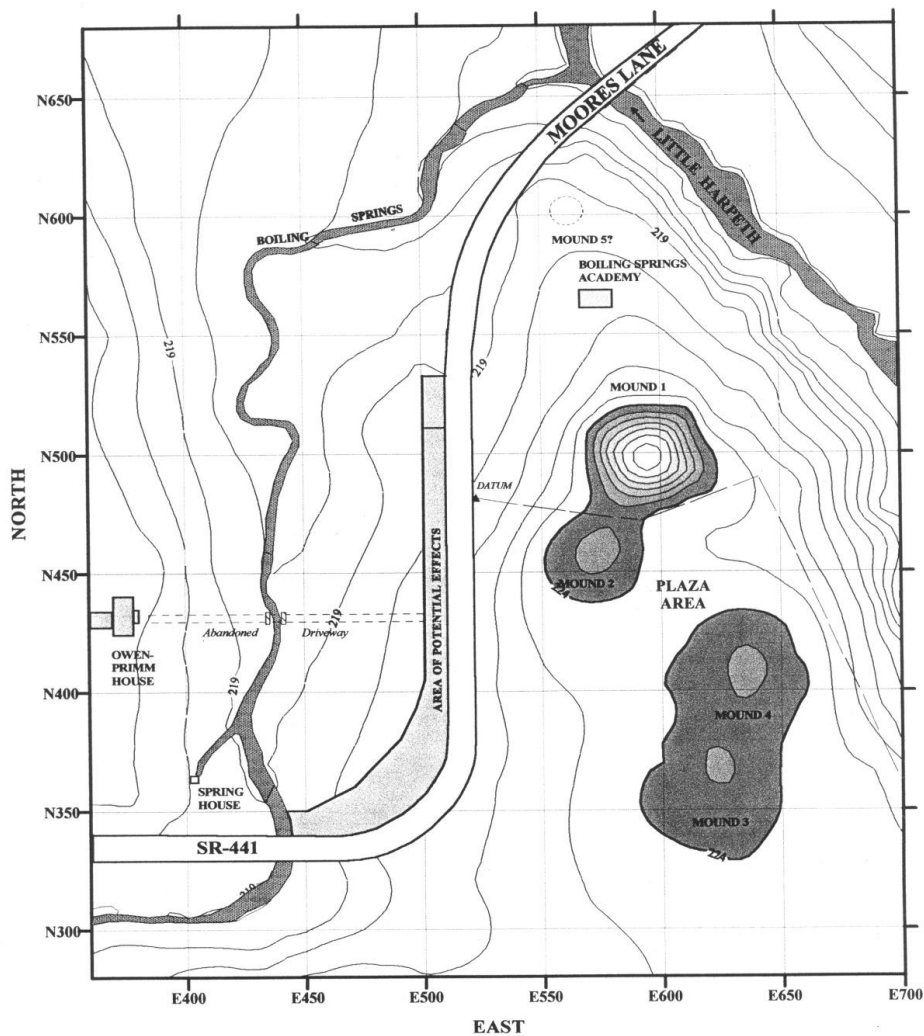
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FIGURE 22. Location of 1998 Archaeological Excavations (*Fewkes Project Records, Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Nashville*)



SITE 40WM1-FEWKES MOUND GROUP

SCALE
0meters 50meters 100meters
Contour Interval = 1 meter
Contours in meters AMSL

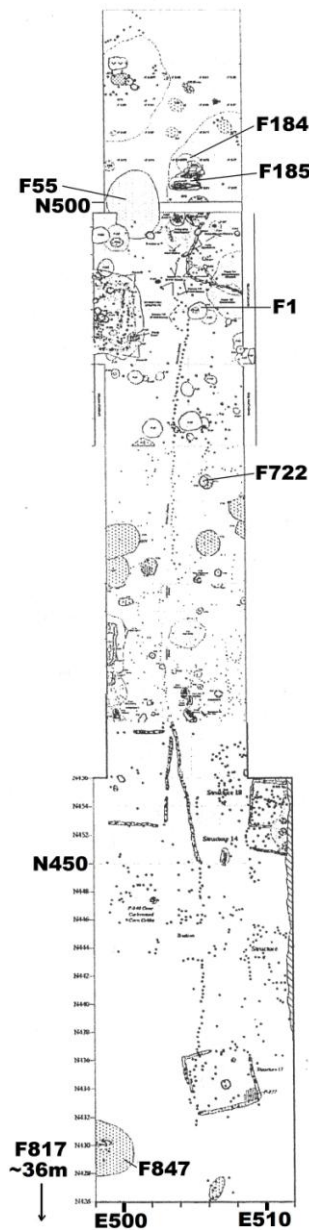
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**FIGURE 23. 1998 Excavation Plan showing Structures, Features, and Palisade (after
Fewkes Project Records, Tennessee Division of Archaeology)**



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FIGURE 24. Greenstone Celts (Ungrooved Axes) from 1998 excavations. *Courtesy, Tennessee Division of Archaeology.*



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FIGURE 25. Drilled dog tooth pendant, 1998 Excavations. *Courtesy, Tennessee Division of Archaeology.*



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FIGURE 26. Female effigy bottle, 1998 Excavations. *Courtesy, Tennessee Division of Archaeology.*



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FIGURE 27. Ceramic ear ornament, 1998 Excavations. *Courtesy, Tennessee Division of Archaeology.*



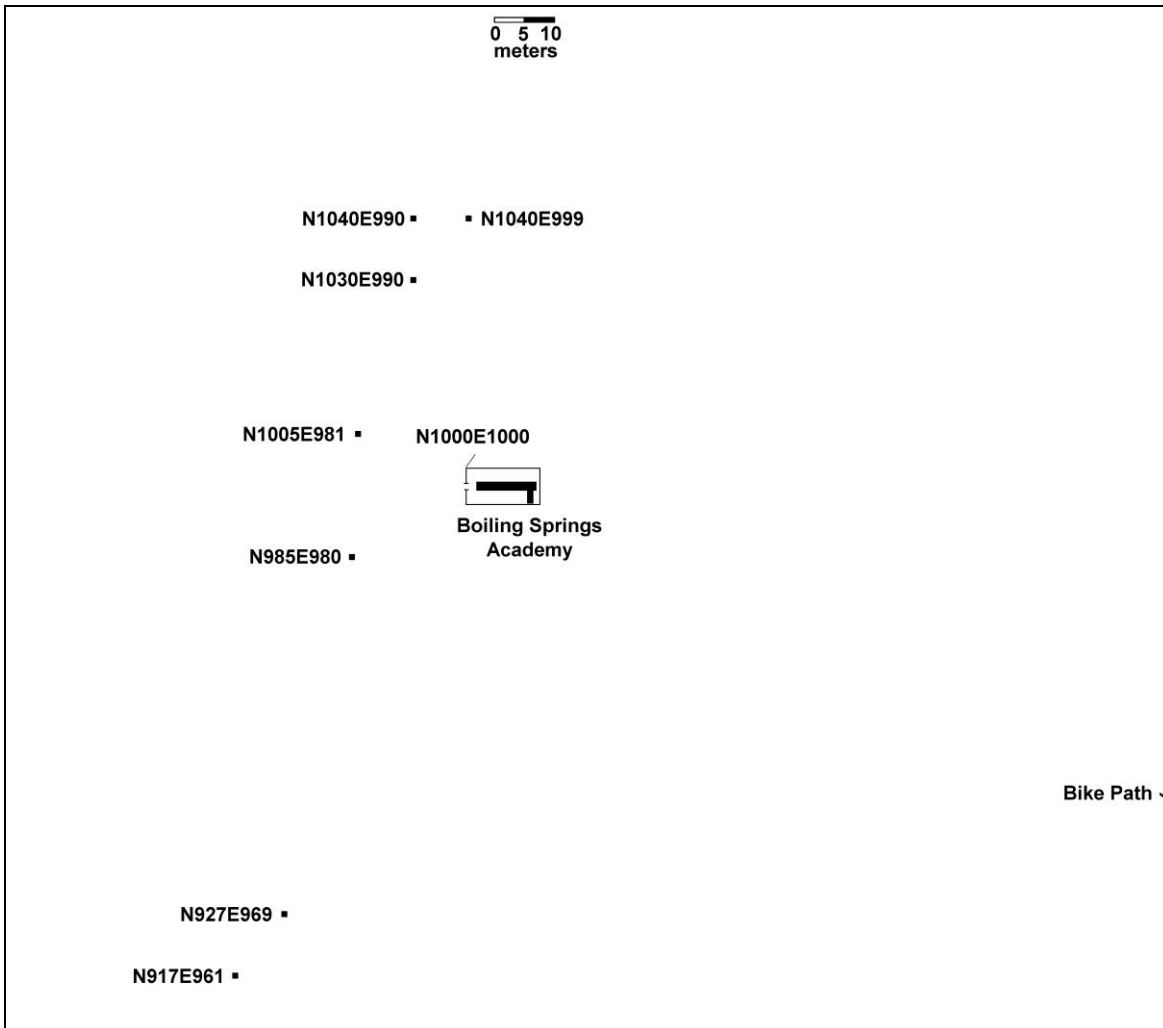
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FIGURE 28. Schematic of 2003 Excavation Units (Smith and Hogan 2004).



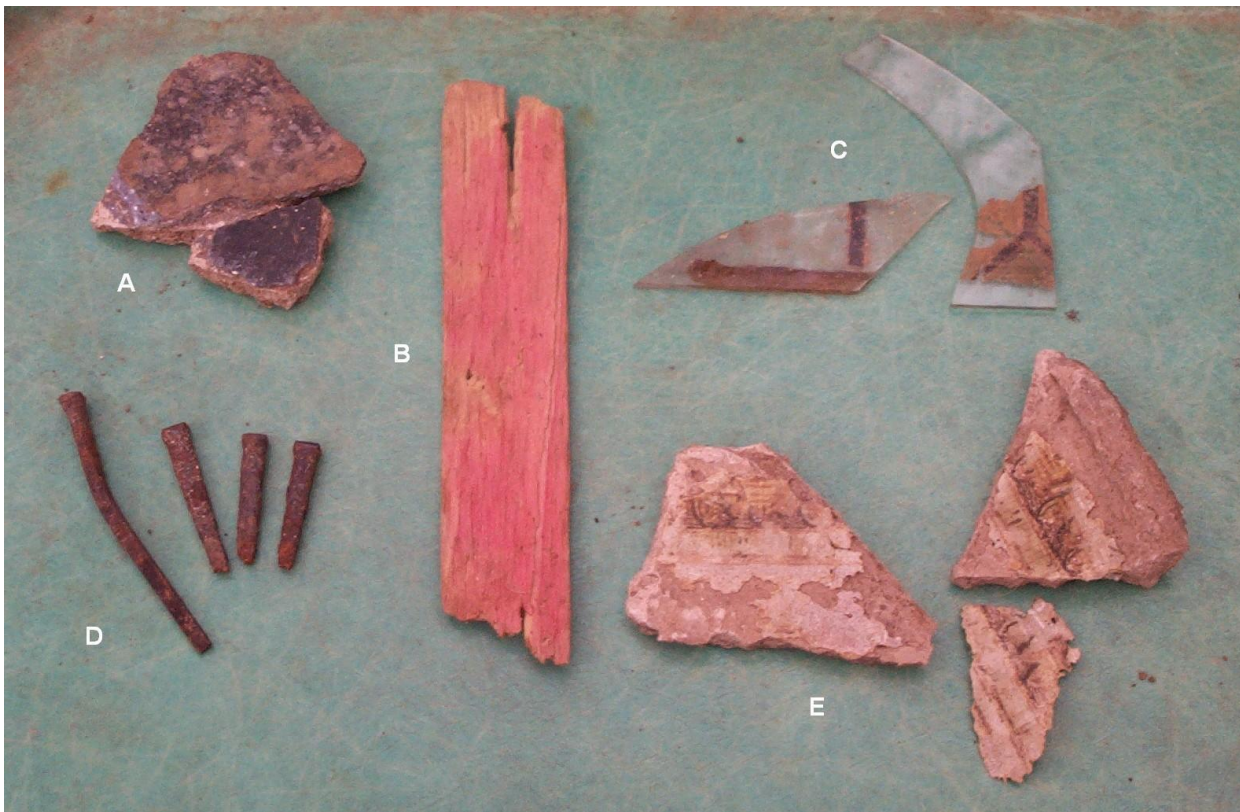
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**FIGURE 29. Selected architectural group artifacts from beneath the Academy, 2003
Excavations: a) plaster blackboard fragment; b) lathe; c) church window glass
decorated with decals; d) cut nails; e) plaster fragment with wallpaper .**



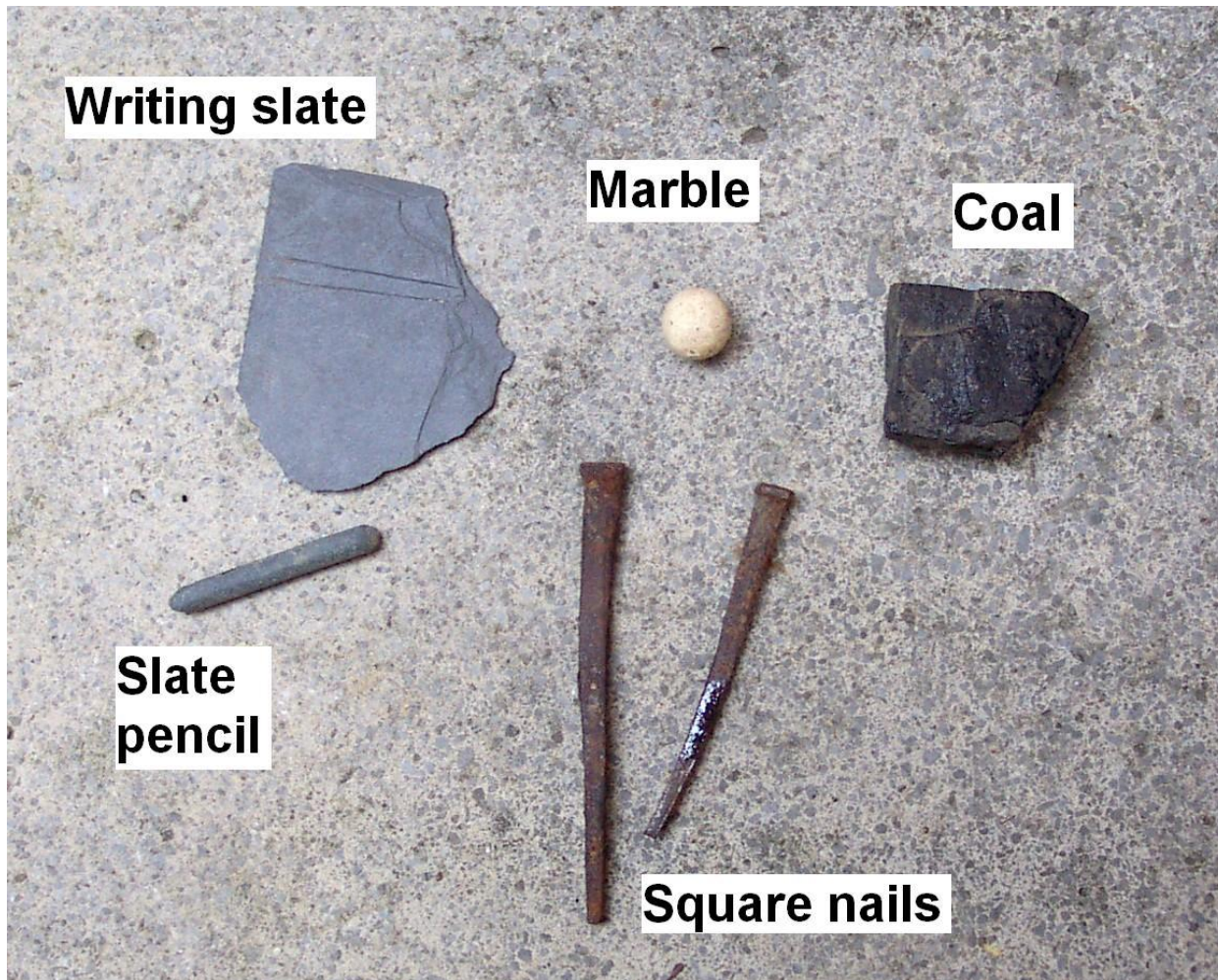
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FIGURE 30. Selected artifacts from 2003 Excavations beneath the Academy.



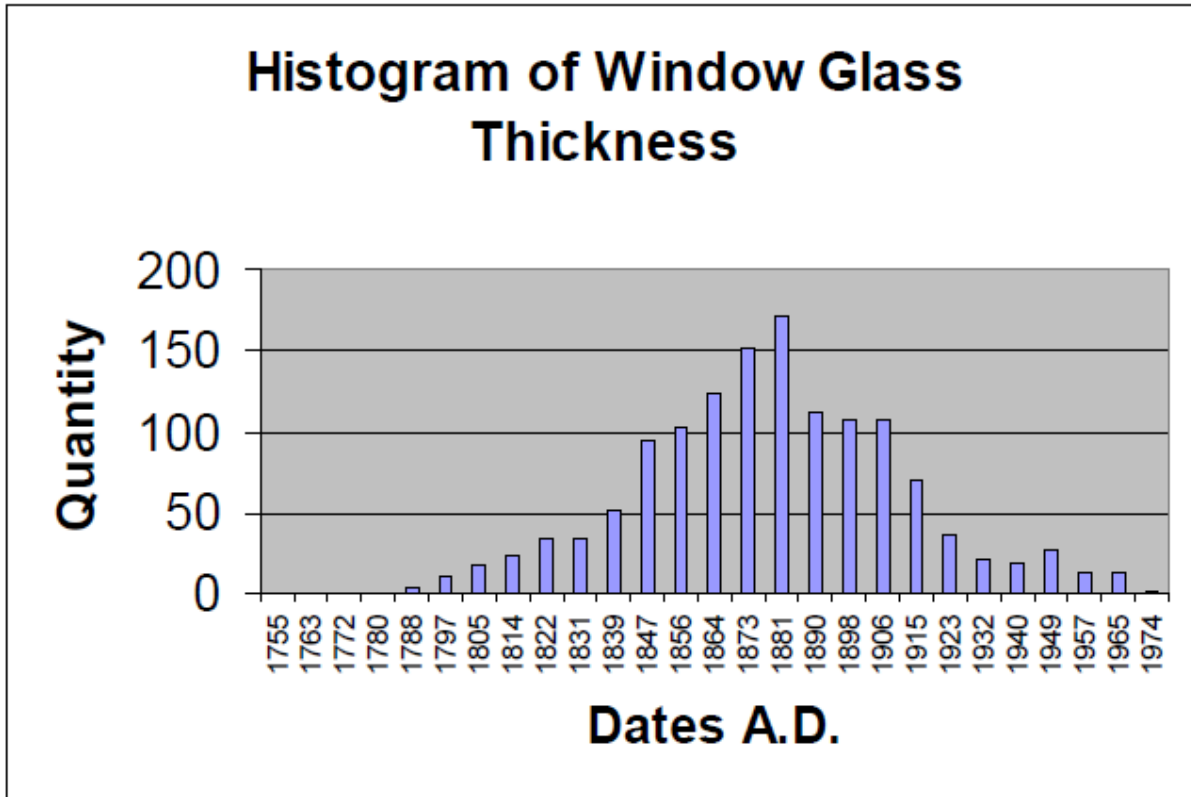
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FIGURE 31. Histogram of Window Glass Thickness and Resulting Dates of Panes.



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FIGURE 32. Greenstone Celt (Ungrooved Axe), 2003 Excavations.



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FIGURE 33. Excavations in Progress, March 13, 2003.



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FIGURE 34. Rehabilitation of Academy Building in Progress, Photograph taken from top of Mound 1 looking north, March 20, 2004.



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FIGURE 35. West Elevation of Boiling Spring Academy during Grand Opening Ceremony, April 10, 2005.



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FIGURE 36. Interior of Academy showing furnishing uses for "A Day in 1845" during Grand Opening of Primm Park, April 10, 2005.



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FIGURE 37. Central Hearth in Mississippian Structure 6, October 1920. *MS 2149, Box 1, Folder 5, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.*



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FIGURE 38. KEY TO PHOTOGRAPHS



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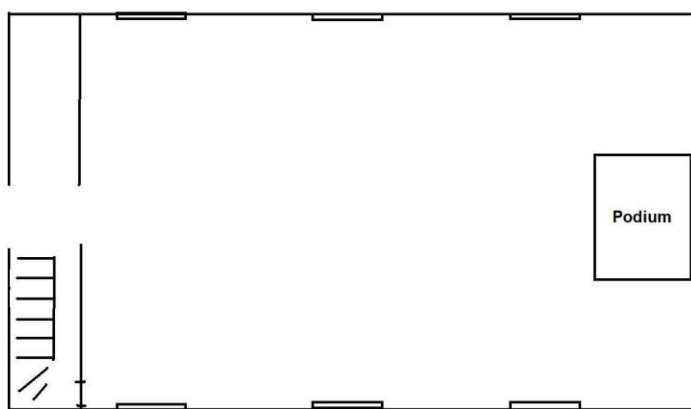
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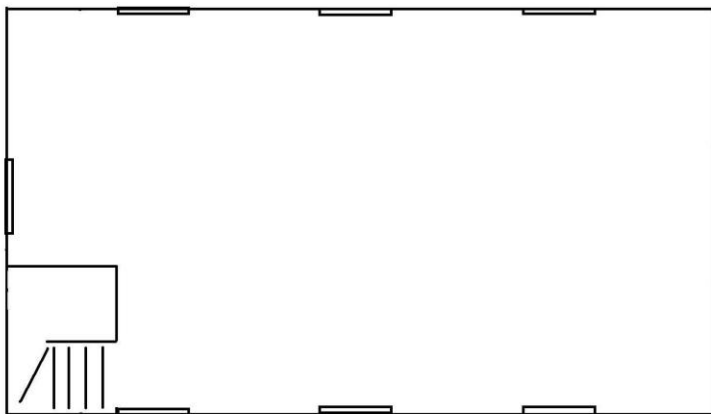
FIGURE 39. Floor Plans, Boiling Spring Academy.

First Floor



0 ft 5

Second Floor



0 ft 5

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Figure 40. Noncontributing buildings on property.

